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## Friday Review



### Me and Shane MacGowan

A rock wife speaks



### The men who made Mandela

With European weather

Music, page 12

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# Russia plunges into crisis

## Yeltsin axes Lebed after coup rumour

David Hearst and James Meek in Moscow

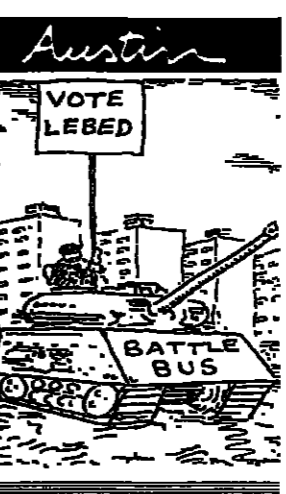
**R**USSIA was plunged deeper into crisis last night as General Alexander Lebed was dramatically and unceremoniously sacked as security chief by Boris Yeltsin.

organising a secret 50,000-strong army and was prepared to seize power. With Moscow on a full security alert, Mr Yeltsin was forced to act. He appeared shakily on nationwide television and accused Gen Lebed of splitting up his security team and running an election race while the president was still in office. "I can no longer tolerate this situation and I am forced to relieve General Lebed of his position as secretary of the security council," Mr Yeltsin said. He then signed the decree before the camera. Gen Lebed reacted calmly to his dismissal, saying he had expected such a step.

"The question was only when I was the black sheep," he added. He added ominously that without his peacemaking efforts with rebel Chechens, the situation there would deteriorate. This, he said — referring to young army conscripts sent to fight the Chechens — "will be a matter for Russian mothers". He accused the president's chief of staff, Anatoly Chubais, of manipulating Mr Yeltsin to engineer the sacking. The trigger for this, he said, had been a package of documents naming those responsible for the Chechen war, which Gen Lebed had sent to the president on Tuesday. "I just got in the way of

Chubais' attempts to establish a regency. He wants to be president," he said. Gen Lebed's sacking means Mr Yeltsin now has no choice but to undergo his operation as soon as possible, in the hope that this will give him a new lease of life. A lame-duck presidency, where the real decisions are taken by the prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, will be too weak to withstand pressure for the president to stand down and for new elections to be called. The sooner those elections are held the greater Gen Lebed's chances are of winning them. He is currently the most popular man in Russia. Among the first to react to

the dismissal was the leadership of the rebel Chechen army, with whom the general had negotiated a ceasefire and partial withdrawal of troops. In a statement issued pointedly in the name of the "foreign minister" of the independent government of Ichkeria, the Chechens said the sacking would lead to "tragic consequences". Russian Chernomyrdin said Gen Lebed had become a victim of those who wanted to see the continuation of the war. Gen Kulikov, who had turned to page 3, column 1



## Gay bishop fired after same-sex 'marriages'

Maideleine Bunting Religious Affairs Editor

**T**HE only openly homosexual bishop in the Church of England has been sacked for blessing same-sex "marriages". The retired Rt Rev Derek Rawcliffe who worked in an honorary capacity as an assistant bishop in the diocese of Ripon, North Yorkshire, has been fired by the Bishop of Ripon, the Rt Rev David Young, that he can no longer conduct episcopal duties.

"It is clear to me that my understanding of the episcopal role in this diocese and Bishop Derek's understanding cannot be reconciled," said Bishop Young in a statement. Bishop Rawcliffe, aged 74, voluntarily admitted his homosexuality in a BBC2 Newsnight interview in 1995, and has since become a respected figure in the Christian gay rights campaign.

He told BBC Look North yesterday that conducting gay blessing ceremonies was "widespread" within the church. "I'm very disappointed because I want the gay community to be accepted by the church and for those who are committed in relationships and who wish to have a Christian blessing on that to be able to have it in private."

The Rev Richard Kirker of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement — of which Bishop Rawcliffe is a member — said the bishop was being persecuted for his honesty and courage in "coming out" and that such "petty, mean" actions drive gays and lesbians in the Church underground. "Same-sex marriages happen in every diocese. We process 500 applications a year and all the bishops are turning a blind eye. Bishop Rawcliffe has been penalised ever since the BBC interview," said Mr Kirker.

The sacking comes in the wake of threats by Reform, the evangelical group which claims to represent 600 clergy, to boycott bishops who do not oppose practising homosexuality from taking services.

## Plea for support to take sperm case to appeal court

# Widow will fight on to have baby by husband

Clare Dyer

**S**HE was known only by her initials, until yesterday. Diane Blood wanted her anonymity to appeal for funds to continue her fight for the right to conceive. Her desire to have a baby by her dead husband, first revealed in the Guardian, remained overwhelming.

The High Court yesterday dismissed her challenge to the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, which refused to allow her to be artificially inseminated with her husband's sperm. It was taken from him when he was in a coma with bacterial meningitis, and so he had not given the required written consent. She will take her case to the Court of Appeal.

Mrs Blood, aged 30, saw Stephen, also 30, her childhood sweetheart and husband of four years, fall ill and die within four days 18 months ago. They desperately wanted a child, and began trying two months before he died.

Mrs Blood was "as determined as anyone could be" to continue. After losing the case, she struggled through a press conference to explain. "I think that I have the most right of anybody to my husband's sperm and I desperately wanted his baby. We planned a baby before he died. I just want that back. I don't see why my life as I planned it should have ended. "I just feel the whole system is unjust to put me through this, the costs and everything. It seems like people are trying to put a price on justice. For me, justice has no price."

the couple had talked about a magazine article about a widow wanting to be inseminated with her dead husband's sperm. Mrs Blood said: "We agreed that if we were ever in that position, that's what we'd like to do."

Mrs Blood, whose legal battle has so far cost her £50,000 and a second mortgage on the bungalow she shared with her husband in Work-sop, Nottinghamshire, could have a child to a stranger, if there was written permission. But not to the man she loved.

Sir Stephen Brown, president of the High Court's family division, said his hands were tied. Mrs Blood had done a great public service in bringing a test case over an anomaly in the six-year legislation governing sperm donations.

Mrs Blood risked having to pay the authority's £30,000 costs. But Sir Stephen refused to make a costs order. Sir Stephen said: "My heart goes out to this applicant who wishes to preserve an essential part of her late beloved husband. The refusal to permit her so to do is for her in the nature of a double betrayal. It stirs the emotions and evokes what I believe to be universal sympathy for the applicant."

But it was for the authority to decide, as long as it acted within the powers given it by Parliament. Baroness Warnock, who had supported Mrs Blood's application in the High Court, had chaired the committee which led to the setting up of the HFEA. She blamed her own "because we didn't think of the kind of contingency which has actually arisen." She was certain her committee would have allowed the



Diane Blood, who yesterday lost her fight to be inseminated with her late husband's sperm. PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN SILLITOE

use of Stephen Blood's sperm. Sir Stephen said Baroness Warnock had made "a very compelling submission, which may have some influence elsewhere, in Parliament for example."

Lord Winston, the leading infertility expert, who called the authority's decision "cruel and unnatural", is considering a bill in the House of Lords. "I don't see any possible damage to the fabric of our society or its morals if this woman is allowed to have

a child using her own husband's sperm." Ruth Deech, HFRA chairwoman, welcomed the ruling. She dismissed suggestions the six-year-old law be reconsidered. "They say hard cases make bad law."

Family friend Paul Plant said a fund-raising effort was underway for the estimated £50,000 appeal costs. "Stephen was one of the nicest blokes you'd ever meet. He wanted children so badly it hurt. He was devoted to Diane."

## 'Why should my life as I had planned it be ended?'

Diane Blood yesterday

## Referees hesitate over showing red card to sending-off incentive scheme

**R**EFEREEs who persistently combat football violence with multiple bookings and sendings-off are being encouraged to increase their productivity further with an incentive scheme which includes financial awards and holidays in Florida, writes David Hopps.

England's most punctilious officials will no longer have to endure the loathing of fans without recompense, and can expect their special talents to be rewarded.

The video game company Sega has approached the Referees' Association with a view to sponsoring the last symbol of impartiality: the referee's red and yellow cards, which in the latest Fifa-inspired clampdown are being banished so often that they are recognised as an ideal marketing opportunity.

England's League referees, who have never entered a sponsorship agreement, have been told of the offer, and so far have been uncharacteristically slow in dismissing it.

With marketing opportunities increasingly at a premium, and cricket having already set the tone by plastering National Grid over its empire's coats, the company contends that its offer remains virtual reality.

## News

Inside

## World News

Swiss bankers have defied charges of benefiting from the Holocaust by diverting cash from murdered Jews to Swiss citizens.

## Finance

Warren Scardino, who is to take over as CEO, will be the first white male executive of one of Britain's top 100 companies.

## Sport

Liverpool were in action in the European Cup Winners Cup, away to FC Sion of Switzerland in the first leg of the second round.

## Comment and Letters 8; Obituaries 10; Friday Review; Crossword 15; Weather 16; TV 16; Radio 16

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Chaotic Moscow drugs trial ends in six-year sentence

British student sent to Russian labour camp

James Meek in Moscow

AN 18-year-old British woman was sentenced to six years in a Russian labour camp yesterday after being convicted of trying to smuggle £500,000 worth of cocaine through the country. Karen Henderson, the first Briton to enter Russia's notoriously harsh penal system since the collapse of the USSR, stood impassively in a steel cage in the half-empty Moscow courtroom as an interpreter translated the verdict and sentence given by Judge Sergei Lebedev. As the meaning of the judge's words sank in, Henderson's sister Dawn collapsed into the arms of a friend. Her parents, Patricia and Hugh, left the court without comment. The British consul, Ian Kydd, who was present in court throughout the trial and has been helping Mr and Mrs Henderson — separated and both living in Holland — said later they were shattered by the court's decision. Henderson, who has been kept in Moscow's fetid, overcrowded Butyrka remand prison since her arrest at Sheremetyevo airport in February, has seven days to appeal against her conviction for the possession and attempted smuggling of 4.6 kilograms of cocaine. If an appeal fails, she is likely to serve her sentence in the Potma labour camp for foreigners in the autonomous republic of Mordovia, 250 miles south-east of Moscow. In the course of a chaotic, juries three-day trial, one of two lay assessors sitting with the judge repeatedly fell asleep, the interpreter made frequent mistranslations, customs witnesses admitted they had forgotten much of what



Karen Henderson closing her eyes yesterday as the Moscow court pronounced its guilty verdict despite her denials

PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID BRAUCHLI

had happened, and documents produced in evidence showed that more than 100 grammes of cocaine had disappeared between its discovery and the carrying out of chemical analysis. Henderson, a tourism student at Utrecht university in the Netherlands, was detained by Russian customs officers with a Dutch friend, Suzanne Vorstenbosch, as they were passing through Moscow on a flight from Miami to Warsaw via Panama, Havana, Shannon and Stockholm. Customs officers told the court their suspicions had been aroused by the route the women were taking. They searched their suitcases and found packages of cocaine hidden behind false panels.

Vorstenbosch pleaded guilty and was sentenced in July to six years' labour. She said she had agreed to smuggle the drugs to Warsaw in exchange for 5,000 Dutch guilders. Most other foreigners in the Potma camp are thought to be Chinese and Vietnamese. Russian labour camps are usually sited far from towns,

surrounded by a wall with watchtowers and a double barbed-wire fence. Prisoners live in large barracks and wear coarse blue overalls in summer, quilted jackets in winter. Convicts who have lived through perestroika and the fall of communism in the camps say they are less brutal than they used to be. Gruel is

the main food. Disease, particularly tuberculosis, has reached epidemic proportions, and a number of special camps have been set up for prisoners with TB. The collapse of central planning has shut most prison workshops, freeing many convicts from labour but depriving camps and inmates of desperately-needed income.

Gang leader jailed for murdering school head

Week Chaudhary

A TEENAGE member of a street gang which claimed to be a juvenile branch of the Triads was yesterday ordered to be detained indefinitely for the murder of headmaster Philip Lawrence. Learoo Chindamo, aged 16, of Kentish Town, north London, bowed his head and showed little emotion as a jury of six men and six women found him guilty of the murder last December. Sentencing him to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure, the Common Sergeant of London, Judge Neil Denison, told him: "Philip Lawrence was a good man and an inspirational teacher. He dedicated and directed his life to providing a future for young people in his care. You took that life and dimmed that future." Chindamo was given a concurrent four-year sentence for wounding and conspiracy to cause grievous bodily harm to a pupil at St George's Roman Catholic School, Maida Vale, west London, where Lawrence was the headmaster. Another youth aged 15 was also convicted on these counts and ordered into local authority care, awaiting reports. He will be sentenced later. The second youth cannot be named but the judge lifted another court order which prevented Chindamo's name from being published during the four-week trial. The Old Bailey trial heard that Chindamo was a member of the Wo-Sing-Wo gang, which aspired to be the juvenile equivalent of the Triads. Just days before the murder, he was named in court as an accomplice in the near fatal knife attack on the husband of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Barbara Mills. On December 8, up to 12 youths linked to the gang, led by Chindamo, went to St George's school to attack a boy who had quarrelled with a pupil of Filipino origin. When Lawrence attempted to protect one of his pupils, he was slapped, punched and finally stabbed by the sneering Chindamo. Lawrence died the same evening. The single stab wound, three inches deep, had penetrated his heart and lung. Chindamo, then aged 15, later boasted of the murder to a friend in an amusement arcade. The killing shocked the country. John Bevan, prosecuting, told the court: "A few grave crimes each year command attention beyond the norm and cause us collectively to reflect." The case focused attention on violence in school and the safety of teachers. It led to an amnesty on knives and



Learoo Chindamo

"The murder was a tragic example of what can happen when a young man full of bravado arms himself with a knife" — Det-Supt Brian Edwards

changes in the law to restrict their sale. Lawrence's widow Frances, who was present throughout the trial, refused to comment after the verdicts were announced. A police officer read a statement from her. It said: "Mrs Lawrence feels that now her place is with her children. She is speaking with each of them on the telephone. Mrs Lawrence described her husband's murder as an earthquake which has destabilised the very foundations of their lives. "Her primary concern is to guide them through the aftermath." Detective Superintendent Brian Edwards, who led the murder inquiry, said outside the Old Bailey: "The murder of Philip Lawrence was a tragic example of what can so easily happen when a young man full of bravado, lacking in maturity and self-restraint, arms himself with a knife. We can only hope that the lessons are learned from this." Margaret Ryan, who was appointed head of St George's school after the killing, said yesterday: "The trial has brought feelings to the surface that both staff and pupils felt they had dealt with and perhaps put behind them. "But now they recognise the need to move on. "Children and teachers lost a much loved and respected head teacher and colleague and that will never be forgotten." Petty food, page 5

Rangers stand by Gascoigne and provoke outrage

Stuart Miller

GLASGOW Rangers yesterday provoked fury when they refused to act on reports that Paul Gascoigne had severely battered his wife, Cheryl. The football club will not discipline the England midfielder over allegations that he attacked his wife in

a drunken rage at the Glen Eagles Hotel, Perthshire, on Sunday, leaving her with a black eye, bruises to the face, neck and arms, her left arm in a sling and three fingers on her left hand dislocated. Amid allegations of a cover-up, and reports that a club doctor was sent to treat Mrs Gascoigne, Rangers' vice-chairman, Donald Findlay QC, in-

sisted yesterday it was a domestic matter. "It is not really my concern. We don't own people — we employ them." Mr Findlay said the club would stand by the player. "If anybody in this club needs help, they will get the same loyalty that they give us, whether they work on the turnstile or whether they are Paul Gascoigne." Campaigners against do-

mestic violence immediately condemned the club. Lesley Irving, of Scottish Women's Aid, said: "They have a responsibility to make it plain that no matter how valuable a player is to them on the field, they will not tolerate what he is accused of doing." She said the club, which has disciplined Gascoigne over his sending off during Wednesday's defeat against

Ajax, was giving a dangerous message to fans who adored the player. Hotel guests said the couple, who married 14 weeks ago, began arguing in the restaurant, where Gascoigne had been drinking heavily. One diner said: "He got drunk very quickly and started being extremely abusive to waiters and his wife. His behaviour and language were appalling."

In 1994, the England midfielder — voted Scottish Player of the Year last season — admitted he had frequently abused Mrs Gascoigne over a two-year period. Neither he nor his wife would comment yesterday, but a friend said they were meeting at a secret location to discuss their future. Sport, page 16

Advertisement for General Accident Direct insurance. Features a cartoon illustration of a person with a large question mark over their head. Text includes: 'ARE YOU SUBSIDISING DISHONEST CLAIMANTS?', 'FOR BUILDINGS & CONTENTS INSURANCE FREEPHONE 0800 121 004', and 'MORTGAGE PAYMENT PROTECTION 0800 121 008'.

Gentleman spy's astonishing tale

Review

David McKie

Dispatches

LIVE Russell is a gent. He wears his white hair almost down to his collar, sports the kind of striped ties which signal membership of something fairly expensive, and says "orff", "lorst" and "substancially". He looks like England's idea of what a characteristic Englishman looks like to people in Buenos Aires. And he has an astonishing tale to tell, featuring such exotic locations as the Naval Club in BA, the Presidential Suite in the Inter-Continental Hotel, and the annual Gas Turbine Fair in Birmingham. Because of the embargo imposed by the British after the Falklands war, the pride of the Argentine navy is *hars de comber*. It can't get the spares. Russell, a former naval officer turned businessman, is approached by Argentine agents to help them put that right. What these saps don't know is that he's been recruited by British intelligence. Soon Rolls Royce parts are being astutely copied in a workshop close to the Catskill mountains. The embargo is thus being flouted, as Russell tells his security minders. Do they promptly try to stop it, as government policy would seem to require? They do not. They are far too pleased with the intelligence Russell is feeding them about Argentine military preparedness. MIS took heavy stick, remember, for its failure to predict the Falklands invasion. It doesn't intend to be caught again — even if that means enhancing

the firepower of our former enemy. What drove Russell to blurt all this out to Martyn Gregory on the first in the new series of Channel 4's Dispatches last night? Partly outrage at all this duplicity: "In my view," he says, "the present government has... betrayed the men and women who sailed from here to die and be wounded in the Falklands war." But partly resentment at the way he's been treated by "Six," which ran him into trouble by circulating a list of elusive parts to all and sundry, and then when he ran into trouble dumped him. There are parallels here, he suggests, with the case of Paul Henderson of Matrix Churchill whom the customs authorities tried to get for offences well known to the security forces, for whom he too was working: see the Scott Report, passim. But MIS is not alone in the dock. According to Robin Robison (said to be formerly of the Joint Intelligence Committee, but otherwise inadequately explained) ministers would not have gone unconsulted on matters of such importance. That may not include Malcolm Rifkind (seen berating John Smith for the wickedness of a Labour government in selling arms to the Argentinians) but it could have involved foreign secretaries Howe, Hurd and Major, all of whom, one is not surprised to discover, declined to talk to Dispatches. To an untutored eye, it looked last night as if the Official Secrets Act was being broken all over the place. But will Russell or Robison be arraigned? Or asked to testify before more rigorous scrutineers? Probably not. More trouble than it's worth to have these things turned over in public, old boy.

Advertisement for a video titled 'She's not a bird, Rodney. She's an actress'. Features a cartoon illustration of a woman and a man. Text includes: 'ONLY FOOLS and HORSES', 'Is love on the cards for Del Boy?', 'Find out in this feature length xmas special £12.99', and 'OUT NOW ON VIDEO'. Includes the BBC logo.

Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page. Includes text like 'THE ADOPT...', 'Shor...', 'MP slate...', 'Russia plunged...', 'Wives of fact that people, Victoria C...', and '...'. Includes a small image of a person's face.

THE ADOPTION DILEMMA

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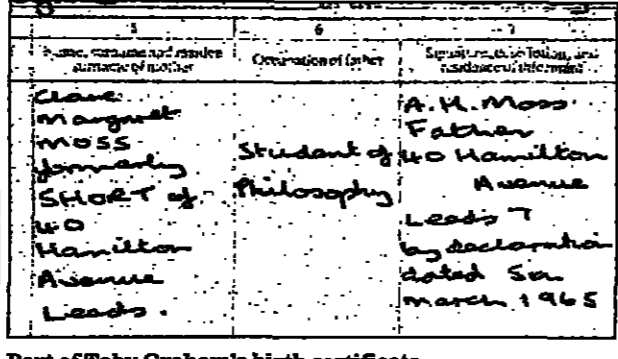
The Labour MP Clare Short and her son Toby Graham yesterday, celebrating their reunion 31 years after she gave him up for adoption

PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN ARGLES

# Short finds a new model role

Sarah Boseley on how the Labour MP has put heart into a sensitive matter

CLARE Short, euphoric at rediscovering her son, was hailed by adoption agencies yesterday as a wonderful role model for the many women from the 1960s and early 70s who felt forced to give up their babies and were made to bury their distress in guilt and shame. Yesterday Ms Short, aged 50, and Toby Graham, the son she gave up for adoption when she was a penniless student 31 years ago, appeared in public together, united in unmistakable joy as they held on to each other and laughed and smiled. "I'm very happy — it's wonderful," said the mother. "I'm just incredibly happy," said the son.



Part of Toby Graham's birth certificate

for Overseas Development for her frank and open acknowledgment of the painful episode in her past that she had so long regretted. Giving up her child, she has said, "was terrible, and it's been terrible ever since... the big thing at the centre of my life was painful." Lee Chambers of BAAF called Ms Short "a positive role model", adding: "Often these women feel ashamed and guilty. We are delighted that she has been so up front

and open about it. Women were made to feel filthy and sinful and encouraged not to talk about it." Adoptions peaked in 1968 at 24,861, some 12,000 of which were children given up by single mothers. Last year only 4,645 children were adopted, roughly half by step-parents. Philip Whitehead, Labour MEP for Staffordshire East and Derby, who was one of the sponsors of the 1975 Bill that allowed adopted children access to their birth documents, was adopted himself and successfully traced his mother when he was 30. In the search for part of the jigsaw of identity — one's genetic parent — it was important not to neglect the parent who had brought the adopted child up, he said yesterday. Credit for his upbringing had been given by both Ms Short and Mr Graham to his adoptive parents. "The messages coming out of the whole Clare Short business are all enormously life-enhancing for all sides of the triangle," he added. Mr Graham, a solicitor, found his natural mother four weeks ago. He began his search about a year ago, spurred on by becoming a father himself. The 1975 law has made it easier for adopted children to find their parents than the other way round. While some adoption agencies will approach an adopted child on behalf of the natural parent, to see if they would like information or even contact, many will not. Ms Short had taken the avenue open to all natural

parents and filed her details with the Adoption Contact Register, held since 1991 by the Office for National Statistics. Details of natural relatives — siblings or grandparents as well as mothers and fathers — who register will be handed over if the adopted child asks for them. Like most adopted children, however, the Labour MP's son had approached the adoption agency for information about his mother, rather than the register. Now, he said in an interview in the Independent newspaper, "I know who I am, where I came from, what my roots are and that bit of my personality that was a vacuum is now filled." His adoptive family had been "one nation Tories", but, "I was moving towards Labour before I met Clare."

Christine Collins, a Manchester mother who traced the daughter who was taken from her at birth when she was 16, said that during the initial weeks or months "you are on cloud nine, feeling a very deep contentment and very happy... "We did have quite a big argument at one point. We ended up not speaking to each other for a couple of months. Then we got back together and were able to laugh about it. It meant we could be normal and fall out and yet always be there for each other." Sometimes, when the euphoria dies down, the relationship does not work out, but professionals say that adopted children rarely regret making contact. Leader comment, page 8

'It isn't all roses. She still blames me for a lot of the problems she has had'



Helen Ishiguro... 'we don't speak much'

It was October last year when Helen Ishiguro found her daughter, Donna, who was born in 1957 as her father disappeared with the last of the American GIs leaving Britain. Donna was adopted by a wealthy family who promised all the things her waitress mother could not give — and it took Helen Ishiguro decades of searching to find her again. Finally, the International Social Service tracing agency called to say they had found her. "It isn't all roses," says Helen Ishiguro. "She has had a difficult life and she is still angry at me for giving her up. It is rosy in the beginning and maybe it won't happen for Clare Short and her son, but in my case the questions did come with the anger — why did I give her up?" "It's also nice for Clare Short because he can be proud of his mother, the MP, and she can be proud of

her son, the solicitor. It was different for us. I'm on welfare and she's delivering pizzas, so there is a bit of inferiority there. It's hard for it all to be rosy when she's scratching her pennants and bringing up three children." Helen Ishiguro has not seen or spoken to her daughter for almost a year. "I had a card from her yesterday but we don't speak much. She still blames me for a lot of problems she has had in her life. The children keep in contact more than their mother does." Maggie O'Kane

'I was happy for Clare Short. I just wish that my child was looking for me'



Doreen Devonshire... 'I just want to know she is alive'

Doreen Devonshire's last sight of her daughter was as a six-week-old baby in a summer floral dress. The year was 1959 and they said goodbye in a mother and baby home in Putney, south London. In the last two years she has been taking legal action to try to force Westminster council to write to her daughter, now aged 37, telling her that her mother wishes to make contact. "I just want to know that she is alive and for her to know that if she wants me she can contact me," says Mrs Devonshire. She was 25 and living at home with her parents when her baby was conceived. She gave birth in a mother-and-baby home. "That's just what you did in the fifties and sixties. There was no unmarried mothers' allowance. Everyone said it was the best thing for the baby and I was selfish to try to keep her." In 1979, Mrs Devonshire learned that her daughter

was healthy and artistic, but she accepted the adoptive parents' wishes that Paula should not be told her birth mother had tried to make contact. Fifteen years later Mrs Devonshire tried again for a reconciliation but was told that the policy of Westminster council, which held her daughter's records, was to forbid contact from the birth mother. "I watched Clare Short on the news last night and I was happy for her. I just wish that my child was looking for me," she said yesterday. Maggie O'Kane

## MP slated for Dunblane remarks

Tory shooting enthusiast attacks 'hysterical' demand for total ban

Even MacAskill and Rebecca Smithers  
TORY MP John Carlisle, who last night after branding Dunblane parents as "hysterical" for demanding a total ban on handguns. His outburst came as the Government resisted pressure from the Opposition and some Tories to hold a free vote on a total ban. Mr Carlisle, MP for Luton North, who lists shooting among his hobbies, said that some of the parents of Dunblane had almost taken themselves out of the gun debate. "They have become far too emotional, far too hysterical, on what is a very, very important national issue." Opposition

MPs reacted with a genuine sense of outrage at Mr Carlisle's remarks. The shadow Scottish secretary, George Robertson, said: "These comments are offensive, bordering on the indecent. I hope he will withdraw his remarks, if only for the sake of his reputation." "The Government will include in the Queen's Speech next week a bill to introduce a ban on the vast majority of handguns, hoping to have the legislation on the statute book by Christmas. But the Opposition hopes it can force the Government into accepting a total ban, and is pressing for a free vote in the hope that it can attract enough Tory MPs. Downing Street insisted yesterday it will resist a free vote. Although the Liberal

Democrats and the Scottish Nationalists support free vote, the Ulster Unionists have hinted they are opposed to a total ban on handguns. Labour cannot even be sure of total support among its own ranks. Frank Cook, the Labour MP for Stockton North, and the pistol captain of the Palace of Westminster rifle club, said yesterday he had to be convinced of the logic of even a partial ban. "The firearms legislation after the Hungerford massacre had been a mess from start to finish, he said, adding: "We are in danger of making an even bigger mess here." Without the support of the Ulster Unionists, Labour would find it hard to defeat the Government. It depends on how many Tory MPs are either soft on the issue or are forced by public opinion. In a further development, a leading peer predicted that the Government could face

"difficulties" in the Lords from peers unhappy with even its partial ban. Lord Wyatt, a cross-bencher, said: "There are a great deal of people in the Lords who are experienced in guns and all kinds of weapons. Some will say that the laws are nonsensical. All laws which are directed at one incident usually turn out to be bad." Labour is pressing to hold the Barnsey East by-election as soon as possible — ideally before Christmas — in case the vote is needed on the guns issue. The party is expected to retain the seat — its second since 1974 — held by Terry Petcher with a majority of 24,777 until his death from cancer last Friday. His funeral was held yesterday. Leader comment and letters, page 8

## Russia plunged into crisis after Yeltsin dismisses Lebed

continued from page 1  
fallen out with Gen Lebed over the signing of a peace accord which the Russian armed forces regarded as a humiliating defeat, claimed to have intelligence reports that 1,500 armed Chechens were ready to support a coup bid. He drafted in interior ministry troops to Moscow, cancelled all police leave and put Russia on a security alert. "Trying to calm down the

crisis, Mr Chernomyrdin summoned his defence chiefs to an early morning meeting, and later appeared on television to quash Gen Kullikov's claims that Gen Lebed was plotting a coup. A row also brewed over Gen Lebed's claim that 30 security service generals were about to be sacked. Mr Chernomyrdin said he was "far from thinking about coups and mutinies". But, referring to Gen Lebed, he at-

tacked the "irresponsibility, incompetence, a home-grown Napoleon complex, that are clearly brimming over, especially lately." However, he did partially support the interior ministers claims that Gen Lebed had been trying to set up a "Russian Legion", by saying that some of the documents presented to the meeting by Gen Kullikov "did correspond to reality".

Gen Lebed, who has threatened to sue Gen Kullikov, said the claims were nonsense. He confirmed that he had sent documents to the interior and defence ministries proposing the creation of special brigades of 3,000 soldiers in each region. But that he said was only a draft proposal, and he had told both parliamentary deputies and the president of the plan.

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**Wives of rock stars are forced to confront the fact that they are married to two different people, the Performer and the Private Person.**  
Victoria Clarke on living with Shane MacGowan

Friday Review page 12

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Doctors back call for immediate cash boost of £200 million as wards close and health authorities cancel non-emergency operations

# NHS 'faces worst cash shortage in its history'

Chris Mihill  
Medical Correspondent

**T**HE health service is facing its worst financial crisis for 10 years, and possibly its worst ever, the British Medical Association warned yesterday.

The BMA said wards were closing, waiting lists lengthening and in some districts all "cold surgery" — elective operations such as hip replacements — had been cancelled, not just for this financial year but for next year as well.

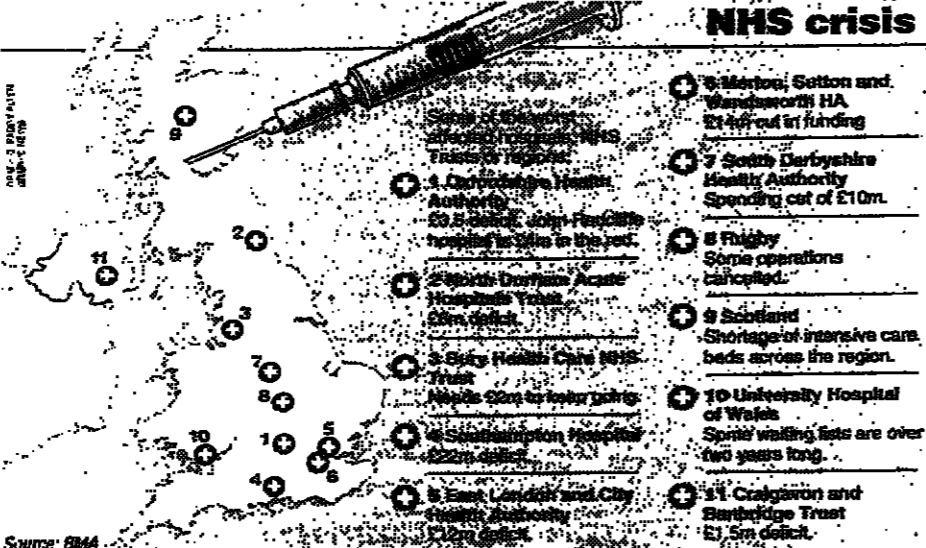
Many hospitals would be operating an "emergency only" policy this winter, and treatment increasingly relied on whether fundholding GPs or health authorities had any money left, rather than how ill the patient was.

The BMA denied it was being alarmist but said the crisis facing many trusts and health authorities was as severe as, if not worse than, that in 1987-88 which prompted Thatcher to bring in the health changes.

The BMA produced a list of some 30 "hotspots" around the country, and pointed out that this had been compiled by just 100 of its members in a matter of days.

"We are facing the worst winter in 10 years, and possibly the worst ever," said James Johnson, head of the BMA's consultants' committee.

Mr Johnson told a press conference at the BMA's headquarters in London that the health service was paying the price of years of under-



funding. He endorsed a call made yesterday by the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts which said the NHS needed an immediate injection of some £200 million to cover this financial year, and at least 3 per cent above inflation for next year.

"There's not enough money in the system — that is the basic problem. It is leading all over the country to wards being mothballed, operating theatres being mothballed and even scarce resources like intensive care beds being closed because there is no money to staff them."

Mr Johnson said a decision had been made at a high political level to let waiting lists for cold surgery increase, otherwise there would be no

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## Health in question: Chris Mihill on how efficiency has been gained at a cost — and demand continues to grow

Is it true that the NHS is better funded than ever before? Yes. The service received £34.7 billion for the current financial year, an increase of 74 per cent since 1979.

So why is the NHS in crisis again? The money is not enough to keep up with the increasing number of elderly people and advances in new technology. There is also an increased expectation among patients, partly fuelled by the Patient's Charter, that all illness can be promptly treated.

The average cost of a single episode of geriatric care is £2,700, compared with £1,000 for other specialities. Some modern drugs can cost £10,000 a year. Doctors' pay settlements above inflation, and the need to find money to reduce the hours of junior doctors, have added to financial pressures. Most health authorities were given just 1

per cent for growth money this year to cope with increased demands.

How does the new system of purchasers and providers work? Health authorities act as "purchasers", assessing the needs of their local populations and buying services through "providers" who are mainly the trust hospitals but can also be private companies, community or charity bodies. Fundholding GPs, who have their own budgets, can buy care directly from the providers.

Does that division play a part in the crisis? Yes. Ironically the scheme was meant to allow "money to follow patients" but the reverse happens. Health authorities make block contracts, say 200 hip replacements a year, with their local hospital. If there is a rush of patients, all the contract money

may be spent in months, meaning no more patients can be treated.

This can result in local people being refused service while the hospital touts for business from neighbouring or even far-flung districts or from fundholding GPs. It means patients who are less ill can leapfrog the queues.

Is the new system more efficient in treating patients? Yes, but at a cost. Nearly 5 per cent more patients were treated from April to June this year than in the corresponding period the previous year. But hospital stays are becoming shorter and shorter as patients are pushed through more quickly.

In addition, all hospitals must make "efficiency savings" of 3 per cent each year, in effect being asked to do the same or more work for less money. Most have no more fat to cut, and can only make such savings by pushing patients through even faster, jeopardising safety.

treadmill of increasing patient numbers but decreasing income because of the annual 3 per cent efficiency cuts.

Will patients be turned away from hospitals? Emergency cases will always be seen, but patients for "cold" surgery will increasingly have to wait. It means patients suffer longer, need more time off work, and are at a more advanced stage of illness when they have their operation, so less likely to do well.

What needs to be done to avert a crisis? In the short term, the BMA and the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts agree that £200 million needs to be injected this financial year to keep the service going. Next year funding needs to be at least 3 per cent above inflation, instead of the predicted 1 per cent, to pay for expanding numbers.

Longer term, the proportion of GDP spent on the health service should be increased. Competition between hospitals, which sees them all trying to maintain every service in order not to lose contracts, should be replaced by co-operation.



An exploratory operation at Guy's Hospital, London. Such procedures are increasingly threatened as health authorities are forced to cut spending. PHOTOGRAPH: ROBIN LAURANCE

## Labour plan to beat Tory 'bias' in trusts

David Brindle, Social Services Correspondent

**A**CCUSATIONS flew over the politicisation of the NHS yesterday after Labour promised to appoint a local authority "representative" to the board of every health authority and trust.

Chris Smith, shadow health secretary, said Labour would also be investigating ways of ensuring the boards better reflected their local communities and had "proper representation of stakeholders".

The Tory Party seized on his comments as proof that Labour intends to put councillors and trade union leaders in control of the NHS. A spokesman for Health Secretary Stephen Dorrell said: "This is what is meant by stake-holding: giving favour of advancement to Labour's councillors and its trade union paymasters."

Mr Smith, however, presented his plans as a way of countering Tory bias among non-executive members of health authority and trust boards.

"I want to resist the temptation simply to get rid of all the Tory placemen and placewomen and replace them with Labour placemen and placewomen," he said. His announcement came at the annual social services conference in Edinburgh, in which he said he was "deeply worried" about the unrepresentative nature of health authorities and trusts.

Chris Vellenoweth, of the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts, said there would be practical problems in trying to match the 108 health authorities in England and Wales, with the 180 social services authorities being created by the new unitary structure.

Mr Smith, whose speech was well received by the 900 delegates, said a Labour government would make an "early" move to set up a regulatory body for social services. He made clear for the first time that the body would extend to all social care staff, not just qualified social workers.

Other commitments by Mr Smith included creation of an independent registration and inspection system for care homes and for agencies providing care in people's own homes, and reform of adoption laws if the Government fails to include its planned health authority in the forthcoming Queen's Speech.

## New doubts arise in the aftermath of Dunblane as opposing factions prepare for battle

### The small but deadly .22 guns that will stay legal

Owen Bowcott reports on the growing concern that new curbs on firearms do not go far enough



Robert Kennedy and Ronald Reagan... both attacked with 22 weapons. Kennedy was killed and Reagan wounded

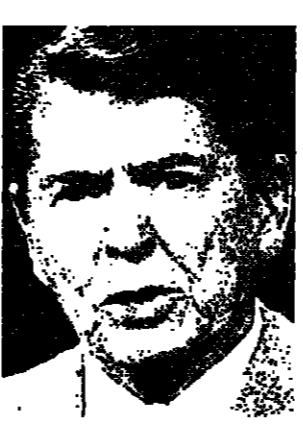
**S**ENATOR Robert Kennedy was assassinated by the pro-Palestinian gunman, Sirhan Sirhan, in 1968 with the type of .22 calibre pistol which will remain legal under the Government's post-Dunblane restrictions.

A similar size firearm was used by John Hinckley when he loosed off a barrage of shots wounding President Reagan and his press secretary before being overpowered by secret service bodyguards in 1981.

Some revolvers can hold up to 12 rounds, while certain semi-automatic pistols have magazine clips carrying up to 10 shots. Lord Cullen, in his report, specifically expressed fears about the speed with which a .22 semi-automatic could be fired.

"The problem with small guns is they are kept for self-defence. But they are too small to appear a threat. So there's more chance of having to use them."

In the United States, such small pistols are popular among women and some men. Less bulky and cheaper than a .44 Magnum or a 9mm weapon, they can easily be concealed in a handbag or a trouser pocket.



Robert Kennedy and Ronald Reagan... both attacked with 22 weapons. Kennedy was killed and Reagan wounded

all of the .22s in this country are imported," says Richard Law, general secretary of the Shooters' Rights Association. "Beretta in Italy, Taurus in Brazil, Smith and Wesson and Colt in the United States all produce .22 versions."

"If Thomas Hamilton had had a semi-automatic .22, he might have caused almost as much carnage," said Dr Laurence Rocke, a consultant at Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital. "Any firearm is deadly. A semi-automatic .22 isn't much less dangerous than a .38 weapon, but I didn't even expect the Government to go as far as it has done. If people are now saying they should ban all these weapons because they are dangerous, then perhaps they should ban shotguns too!"

Ireland is the only European country where all handguns are banned. Dublin requested that they be handed in at the height of the Troubles in 1973. They were never returned to their owners.

are not big enough to appear a threat. So there's more chance of having to use them."

At the only manufacturer of single-shot .22 pistols in Britain, May of London (Gunmakers) Ltd, said yesterday they were despondent. Even though his prestige target weapons remain legal, Ron May fears the restrictions on storage will eventually drive his firm out of business. "I think we may survive for some time but most gun clubs are just ranges; they don't have sophisticated armories. There will be suicides among those whose livelihoods depended on this sport."

One Northern Ireland surgeon who has had to treat hundreds of gunshot victims suggested it would have been better to ban all semi-automatics and self-loading pistols rather than larger calibre weapons.

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### Tory rebels aim for total ban

Handgun revolt is creating another Tory split, reports Alan Travis

**T**HE growing band of rebel Tory MPs who threaten to defy the Government's line on a limited ban on handguns cuts right across the party's ideological spectrum.

The group of four MPs who have so far declared their support for a complete handgun ban share only the fact that they sit for London suburban constituencies.

The former Tory cabinet minister, David Mellor, and Hugh Dykes and Robert Hughes, who both hold Harrow seats, may all broadly be described as being on the liberal wing of the Conservative Party. But the latest recruit to their cause, Terry Dicks, the MP for Hayes and Harlington, is firmly on the right.

Mr Dicks said yesterday most people would not be satisfied with anything less than a ban on all 200,000 handguns in Britain and he would not vote to leave guns in the hands of "half a dozen people who want to play cowboys and Indians at the Olympics".

Others are more interested in target shooting itself, especially those with an army background, such as Andrew Robathan, the MP for Nigel Lawson's old seat of Blaby, who was a Coldstream Guards officer and David Tredinnick, MP for Bowsworth, who served in the Grenadier Guards.

And then there are those who are likely to reflect the views of the shooting organisations, such as Michael Colvin, the MP for Romney, and vice-chairman of the British Field Sports Society.

Peter Atkinson, MP for Hexham, was director of public affairs for the British Field Sports Society until 1992.

The Government will also face a rough ride in the Lords. Lord Wyatt made warning noises yesterday and found support from the cross-bencher Lord Monson, who declared that Mr Howard was being "extremely draconian" and was trying "to deprive 150,000 law-abiding and respectable citizens of their cherished pistols."

**The Observer**  
Nicholson returns from waterside

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MURDER OF A HEADMASTER: Vivek Chaudhary on gang culture of violence which claimed life of Philip Lawrence



Philip Lawrence ... stabbed trying to protect pupil



Learco Chindamo ... had reputation as street fighter. After the killing he boasted in amusement arcade about his crime



Philip Lawrence's widow Frances leaving the Old Bailey

School feud led to crazy killing

A PETTY feud between two schoolboys triggered the events that ended in the senseless killing of headmaster Philip Lawrence as his pupils streamed out of St George's Roman Catholic school in Maida Vale, west London, at the end of a school day last December.

changed heated pupils with fellow St George's pupil, two years younger than him, in the days leading up to the killing. There had been pushing and shoving between the two boys, leading to a fight which was broken up by teachers.

Chindamo, despite being one of the youngest in the group, was the principal organiser. Most of the 12 had their faces covered as they approached St George's, which on a busy main road in Maida Vale.

usual outside the gates to ensure his pupils set off safely for home. He was laughing and chatting. The 15-year-old Filipino youth from St George's, who had been quarrelling with outside the main entrance and offered to take him around the corner for a "one-on-one" fight.

Advertisement for Homebase home security products including Yale Wireless Alarm System, Chubb locks, and Response TV2000 cameras.

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Advertisement for Homebase home security products including Longarm Car Security Lock, Sentry A4 Fire Chest, and various door locks.

Mixing myth with menace as street youths ape their fierce Triad elders

children. Police are quick to reject suggestions of organised Triad recruitment in schools although last year officers in London started an inquiry into such claims.

Security

Safety drive may be hit by government cash hitch. The group wanted that such measures could never be sufficient to provide total protection because — as Lord Cullen repeated on Wednesday in his Dunblane report — schools which want to welcome pupils and parents cannot be turned into fortresses.

older guys think they can get away with anything because they will always have good back-up. A regular truant, Chindamo had been expelled from two previous schools, and was described in court as having a below-average IQ.

Security

22 recommendations in May, including extra powers for police to stop and search and penalties for carrying knives on school premises which came into force last month.

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Banks deny diverting assets of Holocaust victims

# Jewish funds 'went to Swiss citizens'

Jonathan Freedland in Washington

SWISS bankers yesterday angrily denied charges from the United States that they had "illegally" benefited from the Holocaust by diverting money plundered from murdered Jews to citizens of Switzerland.

The denial came after a fusillade of new charges from the powerful Senate banking committee which is investigating worldwide allegations that the banks hoarded gold and other assets stolen from Jewish victims of the Nazis. The controversy has already led to pressure on Switzerland by campaigners in the US, Israel and Britain.

The committee chairman, Republican senator Alfonse D'Amato, said new documents showed Switzerland had signed secret post-war deals to funnel Jewish money to Swiss citizens.

Mr D'Amato charged that the Swiss agreed a 1949 pact with Poland to compensate Swiss citizens for property confiscated by the communist regime by supplying them with the assets of murdered Polish Jews. Similar deals were later agreed with Hungary and Czechoslovakia, the senator claimed.

"We had agreements with all countries after the war,

none of those is secret," a Swiss foreign ministry spokesman, Jean-Philippe Tisserand, insisted yesterday. "Our archives are open and none is related to the subject Mr D'Amato was speaking about."

In an emotional hearing in New York, Holocaust survivors wept as they told how Zurich banks had blocked their efforts to recover inheritances. The bankers stonewalled requests to trace old accounts and even demanded death certificates for people who had been killed in Nazi camps, the witnesses said.

Mr D'Amato said the evidence pointed to a pattern of delay, deceit and effective theft by the banks. He accused the Swiss of deliberate stalling by establishing a commission which would take five years to issue a final report on links to the Nazis.

Yesterday Swiss officials said they needed more time to investigate the fresh charges. But they defended their record, insisting they wanted to return wartime assets to their rightful owners.

Sylvia Matile, a spokeswoman for the Swiss Bankers Association, said an ombudsman was now in place to help almost 1,000 claimants track down family accounts, and that the demand for death certificates had been dropped. She also pointed to an independent panel of bankers and

Jewish representatives which will investigate whether the Swiss engaged in serious obstruction.

Yesterday's developments came as the British Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, reassured the New York-based World Jewish Congress that Britain and the US were investigating a proposal to give an estimated six tonnes of gold seized from the Nazis to Holocaust survivors. The gold is thought to be worth \$75 million.

But Mr D'Amato is unlikely to be placated easily. With a tough re-election battle for his New York seat expected in 1998, he is keen to stick with an issue that has captured the imagination of US Jews — a key group in New York politics.

In the latest hearing he said new documents showed that the depth of Swiss-Nazi collaboration was greater than previously thought. He said the Germans invested up to \$816 million in Swiss enterprises and sold the Swiss hundreds of millions of dollars of stolen gold.

Mr D'Amato said the Swiss then cheated the Allies by claiming they held only \$250 million in Nazi assets, and passing on only half that sum in compensation.

He also charged that the Swiss handed over only \$60 million of looted gold, a fraction of the real haul.



## French day of protest fails to bring Paris to a halt

Alex Duval Smith in Paris

FRENCH trade union leaders yesterday called on public sector workers to step up stoppages this winter. But a day of demonstrations proved smaller than expected, as only about 30 per cent of workers went on strike against government austerity measures.

Airports, schools and rail services were worst hit by yesterday's strike call to the country's 5 million civil servants. But there was little disruption to the Metro in Paris or to national postal services.

More than 50,000 civil servants, augmented by electricity, gas, telecommunication and hospital workers, marched through Paris under the banner: "Work, the public sector and spending power".

Up to 30,000 marchers gathered in cities including Strasbourg and Toulouse. Police said up to 25,000 demonstrated in the city of

Bordeaux, where Alain Juppé, the prime minister, is mayor.

Those who marched through drizzle in Paris were largely gloomy about the prospects of a work-led winter of discontent to match the near-general strike which hit France last November and December.

**'There is not the dynamic we saw last year. People are resigned to job cuts'**

An opinion poll for the daily *Le Parisien* newspaper showed 64 per cent of citizens sympathised with the strike.

Seven trade unions of all political complexes had called the strike and Louis Vianet, secretary general of the Communist-led CGT trade union movement,

called on public servants to create a "movement even stronger than last year's, with more convergence between public and private sector workers".

But on the streets, enthusiasm was muted. Florence Touré, a 45-year-old nurse from a hospital in Greater Paris, said: "There is not the dynamic that we saw last year. People are resigned to job cuts."

Hubert Lornet, a maintenance worker with Paris city council, said: "There are 45,000 employees at the town hall but only 350 people have turned up for the demo. People are scared of losing their jobs and gloomy about the state of France. But they seem more ready to believe that the answer lies with the National Front than with a workers' movement."

The strikes and demonstrations reflect widespread disenchantment with President Jacques Chirac, who promised when he was elected in May 1995 to cut unemployment.



Public sector workers use posters and masks to protest in Paris yesterday against the government's austerity measures. PHOTOGRAPHS: AERON DELAY, FRANCOIS MORF

## Lithuania swings right

Jon Henley in Helsinki

LITHUANIA goes to the polls this weekend in a general election which appears likely to buck the trend it set four years ago when it became the first East European state to vote former communists back into power.

Reeling from the economic collapse which followed independence, Lithuanians voted overwhelmingly in 1992 for the former communists of the Lithuanian Democratic Labour Party (LDLP).

But with the former communists mired by corruption scandals and seemingly unable to improve the lot of most people, the last opinion poll before Sunday's election showed the rightwing Homeland Union — headed by Vy-

tautas Landsbergis, the country's independence hero and first post-communist president — with a four-point lead over the LDLP.

Analysts expect the Homeland Union and its rightwing allies, the Christian Democrats, to win more than a quarter of the votes — more than twice as many as the LDLP — and form the next government, possibly in coalition with the nationalist Centre Union.

"A lot of people, especially farmers, the poor and the pensioners, pinned a lot of hope on the LDLP and they have been very disappointed," said Arturas Racas, a political commentator with the leading Lithuanian daily, *Lietuvos Rytas*.

"They're more than ready to give Landsbergis and his

ideas another chance," Mr Landsbergis, a mild-mannered music professor who led Lithuania's secession from the Soviet Union in 1991, is still outspokenly anti-Russian. Analysts fear his rhetoric could lead to tense relations with Moscow.

If his party does well, he is widely expected to become Speaker of parliament and prepare for a presidential campaign in 1998, making way for his close friend, the Homeland Union leader Gediminas Vagnorius, to become the next prime minister.

Although a strict austerity programme has reduced inflation, the official average monthly wage is only £110; a United Nations put real incomes at about 35 per cent less. Pensioners are expected to get by on £30 a month.

### News in brief

#### Protesters jam Belgian traffic

Tens of thousands of demonstrators and strikers took to the streets throughout Belgium for the fourth day yesterday, demanding an overhaul of the judicial system, which is widely seen as incompetent and corrupt.

Marches on courthouses and sit-ins at intersections created long traffic jams. — AP.

#### Japan to rescue

Japan, the world's largest aid donor to developing nations, is directing more assistance to central Asia, one of the most promising areas in the region, government officials say. — Reuters.

#### 'Kidnap' family

A man, identified as Rainer K, his wife and their 26-year-old son will be charged with kidnapping Jakob Piszmann, a Frankfurt millionaire the woman worked for, who is still missing, German officials said yesterday. — AP.

#### Children 'for sale'

A leading Nigerian human rights group, the Constitutional Rights Project, yesterday claimed a frightening surge in the sale of children into bonded labour, prostitution and domestic slavery. — Reuters.

#### Cuba awaits Lili

Cuba was braced yesterday for the arrival of Hurricane Lili as thousands of people were evacuated from their homes in Havana. — Reuters.

#### Pageant stays put

Miss World organisers said yesterday they would not move the contest from the southern Indian city of Bangalore, despite protests by women and political activists. A move to Goa had been rumoured. — Reuters.

## Italy picks Kohl's brains on single currency push

Rome, following Spain's lead, is hoping to win easier entry conditions for monetary union. Ian Traynor reports from Bonn

ITALY'S prime minister, Romano Prodi, arrived in Bonn last night, hot on the heels of his Spanish counterpart, to seek help from Chancellor Helmut Kohl in his drive to meet the criteria for the single European currency.

Although little was disclosed about last night's talks, Mr Prodi was expected to try to gauge from Mr Kohl how strict the Germans are about the qualification procedure for the single currency.

He also sought German backing, despite hostility from France, for Italy to rejoin the exchange rate mechanism. It is widely believed that Italy will not qualify for European monetary union (EMU) at the beginning of 1999.

Last night's talks followed a quick visit to Germany on Tuesday by the Spanish prime minister, José María Aznar, who discussed similar issues with Mr Kohl.

They came a day after the European Commission issued recommendations for a single currency "stability pact" which relaxes the medium-term fiscal rigour demanded by Germany's central bank.

The Italian and Spanish visits to Bonn confirmed that the countdown to the single currency has begun. Budget performances next year will decide who will be allowed to join the single currency club.

Germany, France, Italy and Spain are making swingeing spending cuts and austerity

drives to meet the single currency criteria, but it is unlikely that Spain or Italy will pass the test next year.

It is also possible that Germany and France will not qualify.

Political expediency may mean that the criteria have to be effectively relaxed, a move that would be fiercely resisted by the Bundesbank.

Projections this week by Deutsche Bank Research suggest that next year none of the four countries will meet the criteria laid down in the Maastricht treaty.

Italy's state debt is projected to double the EMU threshold and its budget deficit 40 per cent above it.

Spain would also fail. The report says: "It must be decided politically whether Spain can join the first group of EMU countries."

French hopes of qualifying rest on a one-off budget windfall of almost £5 billion from France Telecom.

Such creative accounting has led Italy and Spain to believe that the rules can be bent for them too, much to the annoyance of the Bundesbank, which is an advocate of stringent fiscal probity.

"Single-year results alone, especially when produced by one-off effects, are not enough," the Bundesbank chief, Hans Tietmeyer, said last weekend in a clear reference to the French ruse.

"I am sceptical about certain beauty treatments which seem to serve solely to

achieve a cosmetic balance on the key day."

The Bundesbank is not keen either on the European Commission's EMU stability pact, which is unclear on when excessive deficits can be allowed.

The pact also makes punishment for budgetary sinners a political decision rather than one determined by economic criteria.

The pact, a German idea, is aimed at selling the single currency to a sceptical German public by assuring it that the euro will be as strong as the mark.

But Theo Waigel, the German finance minister who initiated the proposals, is stuck between the public and Bundesbank at home, and key EU partners who want a more flexible approach.

He and Mr Tietmeyer clashed on the pact at recent meetings in Washington.

"There can be no grounds for doubts that the currency union will establish and consolidate a culture of stability," Mr Tietmeyer said last weekend. "Otherwise we fit the Bundesbank cannot conceive of a currency union."

But Germany's drive to meet the criteria was buffeted this week when a plan to freeze child benefit from next year was dropped. It has also been disclosed that tax revenues and privatisation returns will yield less next year than initially estimated.

The analysts Deutsche Morgan Grenfell estimate that Mr Kohl's scheme to cut spending by DM 70 billion may deliver only half that amount.

The German government is now considering whether to increase the tax on petrol to plug some of the EMU gap.

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**Friday Review page 6**

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Sacking gives Kremlin's black sheep the freedom to fight for power

Lebed hits back at Moscow plotters

James Meek in Moscow

RUSSIA'S sacked security chief, Alexander Lebed, last night accused President Yeltsin's chief of staff, Anatoly Chubais, of taking over the head of state who was "elderly and ill".

He seemed in his element last night, relishing the role of outsider and appearing almost relieved to be able to lash out at the intrigues within the Kremlin without fear of punishment.

documents containing his conclusions about who was to blame for the Chechen conflict. Gen Lebed was vague about accusations he had been trying to set up a paramilitary force in the country, the Russian Legion, saying only that the documents relating to the plan — not drawn up by him — had been discussion papers only and had not been secret.

Maverick plans comeback as government wobbles

Alexander Lebed is too ambitious for the political wilderness and is regrouping already, writes David Hearst in Moscow

GENERAL Alexander Lebed, the former paratrooper who in July stepped into the breach to save the Russian election for a president who had just suffered a heart attack, lasted 121 days in office.

Even so, this crisis was not of Mr Yeltsin's making and he made his decision with evident reluctance. Out of the team goes the most popular man in the country.

usurping power using Mr Yeltsin's younger daughter, Tatiana Djachenko. Mr Chubais, a cool head under fire and a brilliant organiser, fought back. But the battle was getting too hot. It was a matter of time before one of them had to leave.

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'I thought he would draw the necessary conclusions'

THE following is part of President Yeltsin's televised speech announcing the sacking of Alexander Lebed. "I would like to say a few words about the situation regarding General Lebed. Unfortunately, the situation has turned out rather badly. Some time ago he offered to resign and I told him he had to learn to work with all state organisations and leaders. I told him: 'You have to learn how to do this, and then it will be easier for you to resolve problems'."



Out... Alexander Lebed, sacked by Boris Yeltsin, never hid his presidential ambitions

West fears for Chechen peace

Martin Walker in Washington, John Palmer in Brussels

WESTERN governments kept their bets on President Yeltsin yesterday, insisting that the sacking of General Alexander Lebed would not affect relations with Moscow.

the White House that the defence ministry appeared loyal to Mr Yeltsin, and was committed to continuing the strategic arms reduction process under START-2.

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## Tottering on the vortex

Yeltsin's clumsy action bodes ill for the future

BORIS YELTSIN has blundered into new danger by his inept resolution of the Kremlin power struggle. The security chief Alexander Lebed may be shrouded in darkness but so are those who are attacking him. Mr Lebed has at least brought a sort of peace to Chechnya. His principal opponent, interior minister Anatoly Lukin, had brought appalling death and savage destruction. By choosing one side, Mr Yeltsin has narrowed his options and set a precedent which will discourage future political compromise. It is impossible to interpret this clumsy move as anything other than the lurching of a very sick man. And that opens another whole realm of imminent danger.

Shaky in outward appearance as well as in political reality, Mr Yeltsin in his statement yesterday evening on national television failed to offer credible grounds for his drastic action. His incoherent invoking of the need for a "united team" was a statement of the obvious, but there has not been such a team since his re-election, nor for a long time before. The effect of the sacking is to appear to offer presidential endorsement for the wild charges against Mr Lebed by Mr Lukin, although they were not actually mentioned. These alleged that the security chief had secret plans to create a "Russian legion" of 50,000 elite forces to prepare to seize power, and that Mr Lebed was backed by the separatists in Chechnya. (Mr Lukin, who comes from the neighbouring Stavropol region, has a special dislike of the Chechens). Even the fence-sitting prime minister Viktor Chernomyrdin — to whom Mr Lukin claims to have submitted documents of proof — has said this is absurd. Mr Lebed is indeed proposing a new force to deal with the internal crime wave — which would clearly be a rival to the incompetent and undisciplined forces under Mr Ku-

likov. But the idea that he would use Chechen gunmen to seize power in Moscow appears to be total fantasy. There are, it goes without saying, no angels in the Kremlin power struggle. Mr Yeltsin's specific complaint is that Mr Lebed has formed an alliance with Alexander Kozhakov, the head of the presidential bodyguard who ironically lost his job in the wake of the tactical alliance formed between Mr Yeltsin and Mr Lebed in the second round of the presidential campaign. At the time Mr Lebed himself raised many justified eyebrows with his admiration for General Pinochet and his hints that Russia was not yet ripe for democracy. The cautious Mr Chernomyrdin has failed to intervene with authority, reckoning to profit from the descent into factional warfare. Mr Lukin and Mr Lebed both represent much the same tendency in the ex-Soviet army: a younger generation of patriotic and pugnacious generals who reject both the old Communist outlook and the increasingly weak search for a democratic way forward. They behave with a bearish disregard for political accommodation and the prospect of Mr Lebed as a future president — a role he was not shy in claiming during the election — is unsettling. But what happened yesterday is no solution but just another twist in the spiral downwards to chaos.

There are now fresh doubts about Mr Yeltsin's ability to survive his forthcoming heart surgery in any state to continue presidential rule — if at all. Last night Mr Lebed blamed his dismissal on Yeltsin's chief of staff Anatoly Chubais (another self-serving player) and said he would start preparing now for the next elections. Mr Yeltsin's action solves nothing and only sharpens the contradictions. No amount of diplomatic talk about not commenting on Russia's internal affairs can mask the extremely grim reality.

## Mr Neil Hamilton rests his case

Not, alas, in court. In the hallowed pages of the Spectator

NEIL HAMILTON'S local newspaper, the Northwich Chronicle, published this week the verdict of local voters on their MP (they want him to spend more time with Mrs Hamilton.) Hamilton appealed for clemency on the grounds that "my side of the story has not been printed." That may have been true on Wednesday, but it is true no longer. This week's Spectator has allowed Mr Hamilton two pages in which to present his case. It is a fascinating glimpse of the arguments he would have placed before a High Court judge and jury if he had not lost his nerve at the 11th hour. Mr Hamilton has two arguments: a) Mr Mohammed Al Fayed has been proved to be a liar, and b) there's no reliable corroborative evidence he ever took any cash. Both points are interesting. On b) there were in fact three people prepared to testify on oath in court that they had witnessed Mr Hamilton taking cash. Mr Hamilton could, of course, have challenged their testimony in court. He didn't. Why take the risk, when it is so much easier to argue it out in the pages of the Spectator?

But a) is in many ways the more interesting argument. The central ground for Hamilton's charge that Al Fayed is a proven liar is that the DTI's inspectors implicitly reached that conclusion in their report into the Lornho-Fayed feud. That report was published on March 30 1995. So it is instructive to see how Hamilton behaved thereafter in relation to a man who had officially been declared dishonest.

The answer is that Hamilton gaily carried on meeting Al Fayed and asking questions on his behalf. In the fortnight after the bombshell revelation about Al Fayed he submitted no fewer than four written questions aimed at Lornho. On April 7, 1995, Hamilton also wrote to the DTI about alleged trading links between Lornho and Libya. A week later he was at it again, tabling an early day motion calling on Rowland to divest himself of links with the Observer. Not content with that, he promptly tabled yet another motion calling for an immediate investigation into Lornho links with Colonel Gaddafi. The ceaseless toll soon bore fruit: he received a letter from Peter Lilley in June saying that there would indeed be an investigation into Lornho's Libyan links. In late September, 1995 — a full five months after the DTI inspector's damning report — Hamilton took his wife Christine to stay for three days as guests at Balmagown, Al Fayed's Scottish castle. Thus refreshed, he returned to the fray again, asking the Home Secretary to prosecute two police officers said to have been involved in leaking the DTI report. If Hamilton was worried about Al Fayed being a proven liar this pattern of behaviour on his behalf was a funny way of showing it.

Similarly, if the Spectator article is truly the best Hamilton can do, it is little wonder he dropped the court case. It is a shame the Spectator sells so few copies in Totton. The voters there could do with some light relief.

## The eternal joy of motherhood

Clare Short's reunion is bliss for her and a model for others

CLARE Short did more than just a good turn to herself in placing her name on the register where adopted people can look for their birth parents. Her joy at her reunion with her son — whom she gave up for adoption in 1964 when he was six weeks old and she was an 18-year-old student — will have brought pleasure to all those who read the exuberant accounts yesterday. Mother and reformed son hugged each other for the press but even cynical Fleet Street photographers recognised this was not a confection. The couple have enjoyed a euphoric reunion. But in addition to helping herself — and her son — Ms Short has helped two other groups: the thousands of women who gave up babies in the 1960s who may want to search for their children but feel ashamed at having given a baby away; and the thousands of people who were adopted who are searching for their birth parents.

Ms Short rightly feels no shame — only pain for what happened in the 1960s. It may only have been three decades ago but it was another world where women were not counselled before they gave up babies and respectable single girls did not become pregnant before they got married. Over 12,000 gave up babies for adoption every year in the 1960s compared to 350 in the 1990s. The 1967 Abortion Act, the introduction of the contraceptive pill, and changing social attitudes towards single parents have transformed the scene but still left hundreds of thousands of women feeling loss and pain. Now they may be less wary about a reunion with their children. Not all reunions will be as successful. Even euphoric reunions can get tougher later on. But few adopted people, even those with an unsuccessful reunion, regret searching for their roots. Everyone has a right to know who they are.



### Letters to the Editor

## A shoot-out over the gun ban

THE gun lobby and their apologists are claiming that voters in rural constituencies are likely to oppose the Government's stance. I live in a tiny farming village in Warwickshire and, like all my neighbours, I welcome Michael Howard's proposals ("We will not compromise", October 17).

I also reject the shooting industry's claim that the Government has been "panicked into pandering to public opinion". True, public opinion is overwhelmingly against the gun freaks. But one of the tenets of our democracy is that Members of Parliament represent the wishes of electors, so surely the Tories have at last done something that is both popular and right. Andy Farquarson, The Green, Broadwell, Warks.

Can anyone tell me how banning a small hole-boring tool will prevent the mentally sick and emotionally unstable from finally losing their grip on reality and taking it out on their community?

Surely the money spent on compensating gun owners for the loss of their (presumably) innocent hobbies would be better spent on increasing the support given to the mentally ill? The current debate has been catalysed by a man who

was obviously crying out for help.

Could someone also shed light on whether the Government is aiming to ban itself from selling arms to countries we know to have atrocious human-rights records?

Jo Brown, Clapham Road, London SW9.

THERE is nothing to stop the Government legislating for the use of shotguns as well. I make the following suggestions:

● Shotguns should be limited solely to pest control on agricultural land.

● Annually renewable licences for shotguns should be held in the name of either the land-owner or tenant. The licence would register all users.

● The maximum number of shotguns and registered users should be determined in relation to acreage owned or tenanted. No more than one licence for any piece of land.

● Guns must be stored in secure safe-type cabinets with at least two separate keys.

These proposals will ensure that legitimate pest control can be exercised while at the same time limiting the number of guns in existence.

P G de Hoest, Upper Hall Park, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4.

THE British Safety Council heartily endorses banning private handguns. We agree with David Mellor (No guns in the House, October 14) that the Government should have begun the legislative process in the immediate aftermath of Dunblane.

However, Mr Mellor has not been willing in the past to do much more than call for gun control through the medium of our national newspapers. When we wrote to him in March, offering our help and resources in running an effective campaign, he merely said that we should write to our local MP expressing our views.

As long as MPs such as Mr Mellor continue to be all talk and no action, it will be left to people such as the Dunblane parents to fight for legislation that all sane people back. We expect more from our parliamentary representatives.

Fiona Harcombe, Campaign Organiser, British Safety Council, Chancellors Road, London W6 9RS.

WHAT annoys me most as a pistol shooter is not the logic behind a ban, but that it only applies to the ownership of pistols.

I find it a bit hard to take the collective hypocrisy of a society that pillories me because of the activities of a lone pervers, but at the same

time kills with hardly a murmur more than 500 children per year with motor cars.

M G Matthews, Montefiore Avenue, Ramsgate, Kent CT11.

WHAT concerns me is the state of mind of the lobbyists who demand "rights" to the freedom to play with killer weapons.

Whilst on active service between 1940 and 1945 I was very much aware of the snap, crackle and pop of bullets tearing into flesh and bone, and of what little one could do for damaged human bodies.

All credit to the women who are crystallising the national response to Dunblane, and who are not prepared to allow ministers of governments to pass the children by "on the other side."

J Plant, (Ex RAF Medical Branch) Hilton Lane, Walsall WS8.

IN competitive rifle shooting, the targets are the traditional kind of concentric circles. On pistol or handgun ranges, the targets are imitations of human beings.

This says everything: the psychology of pistol shooters is one of killing.

FR Millett, Hoghill Street, Beaminstor, Dorset DT8.

### Key opens a new debate

ANOTHER "bypass" on a trunk road, another local MP claiming universal local support and exhaustive public inquiries revealing this as the only possible solution to the town's traffic problems (Duel carriageway, October 15), Salisbury is not Newbury, however. Whereas the whole A36 is dual carriageway, most of the A36 is single carriage-way and, now various other schemes on the route have been scrapped, is likely to remain so.

The inquiry into the bypass should be reopened. But let's look at better public transport, "green commuting" to cut local car commuting, safe routes to schools, better pedestrian and cycle routes, buses to surrounding villages, better use of rail for the strategic Bristol/South Coast freight traffic. The previous inquiry, like all road inquiries, was not allowed to discuss such options. Until we consider all options, places like Newbury and Salisbury will continue to get destructive non-solutions.

Stephen Joseph, Director, Transport 2000, Walkden House, 10 Malton Street, London NW1 2EJ.

IN 1993 the Department of Transport admitted at a public inquiry into a proposed bypass through the then roads minister's own constituency that it would not solve the city's local traffic problems.

Indeed, it was never intended to. The City? Salisbury. The minister? Robert Key.

In 1995, a former roads minister who was responsible for the destruction of Twyford Down admitted that "with hindsight", the road should have been put in a tunnel. His name? Robert Key.

In 1988, topsoil from a superstore development was dumped on some priceless river meadows. The local MP was outraged. The same MP now believes that to dump a million tons of chalk onto the same river meadows would only cause "minor" environmental damage. His name? Robert Key.

Most of Salisbury's traffic is generated entirely within the city. The city's peak-hour traffic problems are caused by too many people commuting by car, too many people driving to the out-of-town Tesco. A bypass can only make things worse.

Hamish Soutar, (Green Party PFC, Salisbury) 5 Rogers Close, Salisbury SP2 9AU.

### Switched off

DEAF old pensioners like me also detest automatic switchboards (Letters, October 15 & 16). A useful tip: simply tap keys at random. After a couple of failed attempts, the machine switches into its "Oh, we've got a right one here" mode and transfers you over to a human manager, who is obliged to help you.

L B Austin, 9 Tremadoc Road, London SW4 7NF.

SO the National Health Service needs another £200 million this year to avoid a cash crisis. That is what taxpayers are paying for Trident every two months.

Patricia M Tricker, 31 New Village Road, Little Wightton, East Yorkshire HU20 3XH.

Please include a full postal address, even an e-mailed address, and a telephone number. We regret we cannot acknowledge those not used.



### Pure Genius or low cunning?

THERE is another side to the Pure Genius site that has not received due attention in the media (The seeds on stony ground, October 16). It hosted not only a human community but also a unique ecology. The London Wildlife Trust first visited the site shortly after it was occupied by The Land Is Ours in May. Over 250 species of wildflowers were recorded — including plants extremely rare in London. On a visit to the site this week, we found that Guinness had not been content with evicting the people

living there and demolishing their dwellings, they have also clear-felled a row of London plane trees and are in the process of bulldozing the rest of the site. It is coincidental that this took place the very day before the London Ecology Committee met to consider the adoption of this site as a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation? Graham Turnbull, Director, London Wildlife Trust, 80 York Way, London N1 6AG.

### Bad sports

HAVING scanned many issues of the Sunday Sport and its ugly sister, I wholly endorse Natasha Walter's plea for their top-shelving (The sport of misogyny, October 16). However, this is not purely a women's issue.

Foreigners, gays and people with disabilities are frequent targets of journalistic abuse in the "news" columns. Low-achieving and emotionally vulnerable adolescents are urged to be "proud to poke".

Are you Macho? quiz published in the Daily Sport on August 9, 1995, allotted six points for drinking 15 pints in a night and not throwing up and 10 for "bonking" a mate's mum and letting him watch. Huge and often violent headlines advance their style and content must be included in media and general-studies programmes at school and FE college level.

Margaret Moore, Nuns Way, Cambridge CB4.

### Yes and No to the Referendum Party advert

YET again a prominent pro-European integrationist — in this case Sir Leon Brittan (Not guilty, Sir James, October 16) — is waiting on about how we are not governed by Brussels and how joining the single currency is in our interests.

People like Sir Leon argue that we should join the single currency because it is "in the British interest". This considers only the economic benefits, with no thought for any cultural or social implications. I am sure that anybody who voted Yes to join the "national independence" to protect.

The main function of our Westminster politicians is no longer to act as a representative forum for our democracy; but rather to perpetuate the highly centralised Westminster state and thus frustrate the development of local, regional and truly "national" democracy. (Dr) Stephen Haseler, Professor of Government, 2 Thackeray House, Ansell Street, London W8 5HA.

THE advertisement from the Referendum Party (October 15) was obviously intended to outrage and shock. Yet it made no such impact on me. My first thought was that I hope these various Europeans on display will do a better job than our discredited Westminster politicians.

And my second thought was that the Referendum Party's pitch — that our Westminster system somehow protects our "national independence" against these "un-elected officials" — is a joke. There is no longer any "national independence" to protect.

However, you argue that we should "watch and wait" to see if EMU works. Your hesitation is partly because Britain is "historically inflation prone". But the main advantage of membership of the euro is that it would let us shake off our inflationary past in favour of a credible, stable and low-inflation monetary policy. Currently, our long-term interest rates are 1.5 to 2 per cent above those of Germany and France; participation in EMU would remove that gap and lead to higher investment and more jobs.

Giles Radice MP, Chairman, The European Movement, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.

### A Country Diary

NORTHUMBERLAND: Ratty, in Kenneth Grahame's classic *The Wind in the Willows* was a likeable character. In fact he was not a rat at all but a water vole (*Arvicola terrestris*) and because the species are numbers have been seriously depleted. All over Britain they have disappeared from 70 per cent of sites. The Northumberland Wildlife Trust is handing out survey leaflets to encourage volunteers to report sightings (telephone 0191-2846834 if you can help). There are two colonies at the Hauxley nature reserve. Water voles lead a semi-aquatic life although they tend to make winter retreats away from the river bank, occasionally storing for winter potatoes and turnips. They do not actually hibernate. My brother kept one as a pet. It became quite tame but my parents made him release it on the Wansbeck river bank where he had originally found it. They said that a water vole must have access to a depth of water so it can

plunge-bathe: without this it would become blind. They were knowledgeable naturalists so were probably right. I remember the thick fur of the little animal, the black eyes, short thicket limbs, and the tiny ears buried in the fur, differentiating it from a rat. Their nests resemble a reed basket — a small construction of vegetation secured on reeds and rushes several inches above the water. Herons prey on water voles as well as minnows, otters and weasels so the little beasts have many natural predators. Nevertheless they have been around a long time; remains have been found in various British caves as well as in the brick earths of the Thames Valley. Water voles carry their young rather as dogs do their puppies, transferring them, still blind and helpless, from one safe dwelling to another. They are diurnal, especially in spring and autumn. Characteristic signs are runs in vegetation on river banks and little piles of droppings, less than a centimetre long.

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Diary

Matthew Norman

LIFE and art, art and life... try one is Rory Bremner, the other Mike Yarwood. On the day the wondrous tale of Clare Short's reunion with her son emerged, an excitable call is received from the Riviera. It is Val Corbett, wife of Labour MP Robin, and co-author with Milady Pollard and Joyce Hopcraft of Spasms and the recent masterwork of Of Enemies. "You read Best Of Enemies — you didn't just skim it, did you? — so you'll understand," she says. Um... "Look, in the book, the MP had a baby with her but his girl-friend gave up for adoption and they split up and then, years later, they got married. It's exactly what happened to Clare Short."

Key opens new debate... King's Parade, news for alumni of King's College, Cambridge, is not only the usual begging for money, but also early warning of two lectures commemorating the 50th anniversary of John Maynard Keynes's death. Keynes is one of the two highly distinguished people to emerge from King's this century. Happily, the picture accompanying the announcement is of the other, EM Forster.

IMAGER to impress new editor Rosie Boycott. Independent on Sunday hacks have been studying her last edition of Esquire for some direction, and they have found it in the cover story. "Soaper models... Britain's sexiest soap models... take a break from incest, family feuds and pissing pints." It says, while on the inside pages, some of them also take a break from wearing their bras. Neal Ascherson is working on a piece entitled "What their panicles say about New Labour's front bench stunners" for his first column under the new regime. Meanwhile Alan Watkins has been musing confusedly over a contents-page blurb promising an in-depth look at "the brave, the smooch-worthy, droolsome, whiff-tastic world of teenage magazines".

MEANWHILE, in party mood after the sacking of Miss Boycott's admirable predecessor Peter Wilby, Monty Montgomery held a bash at the Victoria & Albert museum. Although one or two journalists may have crashed, the guests were almost entirely advertisers, of course, and they enjoyed Monty's speech. His entire pitch, it seems, was a celebration of what makes his paper different... how drastically it has cut its staff, and how it costs much less to produce than any other paper. Monty can afford to celebrate, of course, having pocketed over £1 million from share options this year alone.

A Nearly Happy Birthday to Mandy Manderson, who turns 43 on Monday. Oofy Wegg-Prosser denies that the party will include a laser show bonned off St Paul's Cathedral, a conga round, Tronlight Square and the disco at the YMCA. All that remained was to ask him to pass on our best birthday wishes. "Err, yes," said Oofy.

INTERVIEWED in the New York Times, the Duchess of York (impatiently referred to as "Fergie") is asked whether, if she emigrates to America, she would choose New York or California. "I'm not going to say where," says Fergie, "but I will say that the Midwest gets overlooked." Yes, but of course. The Midwest... Montana, Ohio and Nebraska... the Bible Belt, home of simple, farm'n' folk, the moral majority. Shucks, Ma'am, it sounds just perfect.

I ONLY WANT TO BE SURE THAT MY PARENTS AREN'T FURTHERS.



Expensive noises in the Murdoch engine

Commentary Peter Preston

It's one mystery the insight team has never touched. What really happened to Andrew Neil? One moment he was the Sunday Times' chief news editor, the next he was a pundit on the radio. He could only be sighted dabbling ephemeral in Murdoch boondoggle and doomed TV projects far away before leaving the Rupe/Clint love-in nest forever. Why did the earth move so calamitously for Andrew? After the pallmone, the acrimoney. We are about to be told why. Eager readers of Neil's imminent memoirs will have their own theories. Maybe Mr Murdoch was secretly envious of his star editor's felicitous prose, innate modesty and sparkling wit. (Other star editors will be assessing that for the Guardian next week). Maybe — to update a running metaphor — Rupert is the

Mick Jagger of serial sackers. Maybe he can't stand any hired hand stealing his thunder. (Read all about that in the Guardian on Monday.) But the essential Neil thesis, already stirring a few headlines, is far more jolting. The final boom was lowered, he says, because his Sunday Times was bad for bigger Murdoch business. We're back in March 1994 and the Sunday Times (amongst others) is full of Malaysian back-handers and Pergau dams. "You're boring people," Rupert shouts down the phone at Neil. "You're doing much too much on Malaysia. Page after page of it, which nobody can understand. Malaysia doesn't merit all this coverage. They're all corrupt in that part of the world." Neil notes that Murdoch had just dumped the BBC Television World Service from his Asian Star satellite to appease the Chinese government; and that Malaysia's incensed Prime Minister Mahathir is poised to open his own Star wars with News International. One "prosperous, fast-growing tiger economy" closed to satellite trade for the foreseeable future. Would it be India, or more from China, next? Neil (via an anonymous

British minister) hears how the Pergau row blew itself out 15 months later with a direct quote from the Britain's own High Commissioner in Kuala Lumpur. Any residual dread fixed "not since Murdoch did it with Mahathir. The PM made it clear that Murdoch would never do business in his country so long as Andrew Neil was editor of the Sunday Times". Mahathir himself is reportedly told by Murdoch that a "rogue editor" has been "sorted out". It is, of course, true that literary reminiscences from what Neil himself used to call "the ex-editors club" tend to wallow generically in hindsight, self-justification and vainglory. It's also true that, on this rendition, Rupert Murdoch did nothing the British Government wouldn't have done itself if it had had the chance. Nevertheless: serious, sea-change stuff. We have grown sloppily used to thinking of Mr Murdoch as some pre-millennial Citizen Kane, a media baron — with added charisma and deal-making flair — determined to infiltrate his views of the world on the world. He has indeed had views. And (as exed from Derek Jameson to Kelvin MacKenzie at test) they are ruthlessly in-

flicted. But that is only part of the story; and probably the older, truder part. John Major, to be sure, is still supposed to quake when Rupert calls the Sun. Tony Blair will let away to an Australian island (with Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister as it transpires) and present his winsome self for Murdoch inspection. The impression is of nifty politicians paying court. Yet, increasingly, it's difficult to know who's wooing whom. Mr Mahathir, it seems, was not unctuously seeking favours: he was demanding them. The empire wasn't striking back: it was scrabbling for an accommodation. That is not, coolly considered, so very surprising. The empire isn't a panzer division, but a scattered sprawl of territorialists. Its global base

'You're boring people, Rupert shouts down the phone. You're doing much too much on Malaysia'

camp depends on a bewildering mesh of companies and shifting tax regimes. Individual nation states — keeping their most precious sports terrestrial or chomping after a news coverage that suits them — can exercise a deal of clout. The further the empire stretches into satellites and movies and American networks, the more potentially embarrassing or otiose proper newspapers become. Why own the South China

Post in Hong Kong when, proactively, every post-1997 news story it runs may get up Beijing's nose? Meanwhile, as Rupert slogs on through the Times/Telegraph price-cutting campaign, does he exult that one cinema bit like Indipendence Day can cover Times' losses for a decade? Or does it all begin to feel a little beside the point?

The questions, in short, are changing. The Murdoch perspective is changing. And the future, in turn, needs adjustment. Business is pragmatic, not ideological. Business dictates that (even) nation states are easier to deal with than federalist superstates. America, full of restrictions, was a pain to break into. Why sit back and let that happen all over again as a united Europe begins to feel its oats? Your newspapers can help there, turning ideological to order. But when it comes to films and sport and the explosion of television, pragmatism squeezes out political beliefs.

The multi-media mass market is international, ubiquitous and therefore bland. It wants no waves made. It wants to be left alone to make money. And here the newspaper fit becomes much edgier. Newspapers have national roots, and identities. They can be used tactically to browbeat governments. But, strategically, they can't be bland. They are tools to help build an empire, but not sustain it. Andrew Neil thinks he was the first spanner in the works. Too amazingly modest of him. I rather wonder if he wasn't the first rasping choke of the Big End, about to give up the ghost.

Full Disclosure is published by Macmillan, £25

Mother Teresa: who does she think she is?



Bel Littlejohn

ME I'M a people person. Ask anyone — or at least anyone I'm still talking to: you can't trust the others, you really can't, not one little bit. And as a self-confessed people person, I'm overwhelmingly concerned — and I don't often admit this, it's a very private thing — to make those worse off than me feel good about themselves. I give as much as I can. Of course, when I say "give as much as I can" I don't mean financially. I mean spiritually. Let's face it, people worse off don't want all the extra sheer bloody worry of dealing with my hard-earned cash. They're in enough mess as it is, without the extra hassle of accountability. What these people really want, even if they don't know it, bless 'em, is my spiritual sustenance.

the supreme mistress of irony? Yup, you've got it — Mother Teresa and her Sisters of Charity. Anyone who read last Monday's searing Guardian piece about her so-called organisation, or who has read Chris Hitchens's remarkably measured biography of that lady, Worse Than Hitler, will know quite how dreadful it is. As the article said, there's one feature about Mother Teresa which really sticks in the gullet: she's only interested in keeping them alive.

FACT: Her homes have far too many people in them, and a lot of them are really not well enough for ordinary decent helpers to mix with. That article spelt out the fact in damning detail that one of her homes alone has greedily allowed in 50,000 people since it opened in 1952 — small wonder room service is so slack. FACT: There are no CDs in her homes, no woks, no French films on video, precious few modern novels, no DVDs, no sun-ray lamps, no focaccia bread. I suppose the lady thinks, in her Almighty way, that these basic commodities are just that little bit too good for her lowly clientele.

FACT: Mother Teresa ignores all Western medical advice and, in her high-handed arrogant way, can't bloody well be bothered to put factor 15 sun-lotion on her face — hence the leathery skin and mass of wrinkles. FACT: Far from being the self-proclaimed "little old lady who has devoted her life to the good of others", Mother Teresa is a PR supremo brilliantly skilled at manipulating the media. After Hitchens's book appeared, she cold-bloodedly refused to appear on Start the Week, the Late Show, Wogan and Noel's House Party, thus deftly turning his attack on her to her advantage. Makes you think, eh?

AND while this diminutive PR wizard is gallivanting around on an ego trip, dragging the less-well-off into her homes and then denying them access to all kinds of visual and intellectual stimulation (the new Bertolucci is still not available in Calcutta, despite repeated requests from many influential people in the London media), we leading columnists at the Guardian are doing our level best to make this ailing world go well soon. Opinions are our first-aid kits, paragraphs our pills, words our syringes, photo-bylines our bandages; and we do whatever we can, come rain or shine, to make our opinions available to whoever should be in need of them. Unlike Mother Teresa, who, when she's not forcing the sick to lie down in her homes, just swaggers around the chat-show circuit looking "holy". But then, I'm a people person, and that's a term that would mean nothing to Mother Tow-Know-Who. Tuff said.



Felicity Collier argues that although adoption procedures have improved greatly since Clare Short's day, the Government must not let slip its Bill for further reform

Four parents, one child

CLARE SHORT, happily reunited with her adopted son Toby Graham, has provided us with a good-news story. In talking about her feelings at the time she relinquished her son for adoption 31 years ago, she has described the pain she has lived with since that time, but overall her son's adoption has had a very successful outcome.

Such a positive outcome should be available to more adopted children — an opportunity now offered by a draft Adoption Bill being considered by the Government. Yet there are worrying signs that this Bill will not be part of the Queen's Speech. If so, it will mark a step backwards in the tremendous progress made since Clare Short chose to put her son up for adoption.

We do know that a relatively small number of adopted adults try to contact their birth parents, and a much larger proportion want to know about the circumstances of their adoption. Adopted people often do not seek information until their 30s, or even later, and we know that there are key times in people's lives when this need is triggered: marriage, the birth of a child or the death of an adoptive parent may suddenly create a tremendous urge for people to learn about their origins.

Some feel it would be a betrayal of their adoptive parents to trace their birth parents. It is vital that adoptive parents understand the importance which 'identity' can assume

relationship between an adoptive child and his or her birth parents. If a young woman at university today finds that she is pregnant, she has access to her grant to allow her to care for her child. Universities often give assistance with childcare facilities, so she can continue studying if that is her wish. She also has the opportunity of counselling.

Clearly, adoption is one of the options that such a young woman will wish to consider. No longer is adoption about shame and secrecy: we have come a long way since then. If she had her child adopted

now, she would be able to request to meet the people who are adopting her baby, and to provide a good deal of information about herself and the child's father as the child grows up. She might hand over photographs and letters, and in many cases will have the opportunity for some limited contact and exchange of information over the years.

But there are still gaps in the law, which the new draft Bill needs to fill at the earliest opportunity. The pain described by Clare Short is just one sign that the Bill will fulfil a real need. Large numbers of babies were placed for

the rest of their lives. They can feel long-term harassment and grief if they have no contact with their child and no one to talk to about their experience: up to a third of birth mothers who gave up their children in past years are thought to have needed help from mental-health services as a result.

Every child needs the advantage of a loving and supportive family throughout its life. Children who have experienced numerous moves in public care are over-represented in prison, the mental-health system and on the streets, and are less likely to

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Berthold Goldschmidt

# Lost master's grand finale

IT WAS not until the 1980s that the composer Berthold Goldschmidt, who died aged 95, began to get the recognition he deserved. In 1988, Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra gave the first ever complete performance of Goldschmidt's opera *Beatrice Cenci*. Goldschmidt had waited 37 years to hear his work performed. Further success came five years later when his *Passacaglia for Orchestra Op 4*, which had won him the Mendelssohn Prize in 1925 and long thought to have been lost, was rediscovered.

In 1920s Berlin, Goldschmidt was one of Germany's most promising young musicians, at the heart of the Weimar Republic's artistic life. When the Nazis came to power in 1933, a year after his first opera had been staged, his career as a conductor was curtailed and his work forbidden. He fled to this country in 1935 and found that his music was out of fashion. Half a century later, Goldschmidt had the joy of seeing his first opera, *Der gezeichnete Hahnrei* (The Magnificent Cuckold), performed in Berlin, where once it had been banned.

Goldschmidt was born in Hamburg, the son of a music-loving importer of bedfeathers. He showed an aptitude for music and, after a university education at Hamburg and Berlin, he entered the Berlin Hochschule für Musik in 1922, specialising in conducting and composition under Franz Schreker. Needing to make his living as a

conductor, he joined the Berlin State Opera as a répétiteur, where he was at once plunged into the preparation of Alban Berg's *Wozzeck* for the epoch-making premiere in 1925. He also coached the choir and soloists for the premiere of *Gurrelieder* and played the celeste in *Rosenkavalier* under Richard Strauss's baton.

In 1928, the actor and director Carl Ebert invited him to Darmstadt as music adviser and conductor. In 1930, he completed *Der gezeichnete Hahnrei*, which was at once considered for performance in several theatres, despite growing political hostility, the

When the Nazis came to power his conducting career was curtailed and his work forbidden

Mannheim opera successfully produced it in 1932. It was immediately scheduled at the Berlin Opera, where Goldschmidt was now working, but, with the coming of the Nazis, Goldschmidt, as a Jew, was dismissed from his post and the production cancelled.

His career in ruins, Goldschmidt began to take piano pupils — and thereby saved his life. Summoned by the Gestapo for interrogation in the autumn of 1935, he had little reason to think he would come out alive. After being

questioned on the details of his career and his visits to the Soviet Union, the interrogator asked about the piano lessons he gave for three marks. The interrogator explained proudly that his daughter's lessons cost five marks, and Goldschmidt had the courage to ask the question that probed his way of survival: "What kind of music did she like?" "Schubert, Schumann," was the reply. A human link was made, and Goldschmidt was allowed to leave Prinz-Albrechtstrasse with advice to get out of Germany at once. Coming from anglophile Hamburg, and aware of the high reputation of BBC music in Germany, Goldschmidt set out for England in October 1935. His reception at Harwich was frosty — the immigration officer asked his profession. "Musician," he replied — only to be told, "Musicians are in a bad way — there's no work for them, so there's no prospect of a foreigner getting a work permit." Goldschmidt showed a bundle of manuscripts. "I am an internationally known composer," he insisted — having earned perhaps 35 marks in the previous year. The immigration officer looked them over. "Right, you can stay for three months, but no employment either paid or unpaid." The permit was repeatedly renewed while Goldschmidt, from the two-roomed flat in Belsize Park, London, where he lived for the rest of his life, rebuilt his career — teaching, coaching singers, and of course composing, but with little prospect of performance. He worked with the Joos



Hidden talent... for half a century the works of Berthold Goldschmidt lay undiscovered, until his triumphant renaissance. PHOTOGRAPH: HENRIETTA BURTON

Ballet, and during the war was an adviser, composer and conductor with the BBC German service, broadcasting banned music — Mendelssohn and Mahler — to Germany.

In 1947 he became a naturalised British citizen and Carl Ebert invited him to join the Glyndebourne Opera as chorus master for their appearance at the first Edinburgh Festival. Verdi's *Macbeth* was to be conducted by George Szell, but he walked out. The management scoured the world for a replacement — they even tried Toscanini — but in the end turned to Goldschmidt, who took on the performances with considerable success.

In 1951, *Beatrice Cenci*, based on Shelley's play, won

the Festival of Britain opera competition, but it was Benjamin Britten's *Billy Budd* that was performed. Although Goldschmidt now expanded his work as a conductor, chiefly with BBC orchestras, he continued to compose — songs with orchestra, concertos for violin, for clarinet and for cello. With the advance of the avant-garde, his music was increasingly neglected. His wife became ill with leukaemia and he nursed her until her death in 1979.

In 1983, a student read-through of his first opera happened to be heard by influential figures, who were immediately struck by the quality of the music. David Drew, of the publishers Boosey and Hawkes, took him up;

Simon Rattle included Goldschmidt's *Clavomus Sinfonica* in a concert in the Berlin Festival in 1987, with enormous success. This heralded a quite extraordinary revival of interest. On December 1, 1992, a few weeks before his 90th birthday, Goldschmidt stood before a cheering audience in the Berlin Philharmonie for a concert performance of *Der gezeichnete Hahnrei*. In 1994 he was the honoured composer of the Berlin Festival, with a brilliant production of this opera at the Komische Oper, and orchestral concerts and recitals devoted to his music. This Saturday triumph led him to remark: "I should be dead to get all this attention". *Beatrice Cenci* at last reached

the stage in Magdeburg in 1994. Goldschmidt even returned to conducting, aged 92, he led the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in recordings of his overture, *The Comedy of Errors*, and the violin rondo he wrote for the Canadian violinist, Chanai Juliet. It had been a triumphant renaissance.

Why did it take so long for the innate quality of his music to be recognised? The answer is in the man himself — his unwavering commitment to the fundamental materials of music, untouched by fashion, scornful of gimmicks, he wrote what he had to. When someone claimed to find the influence of Shostakovich and Prokofiev,

Goldschmidt observed, that, since his music was written before their works were known, perhaps it was the other way round. At a crucial stage in his life, his open rejection of Schönberg and his followers did not endear him to a dominating establishment. But when they were actually able to hear his music, audiences and musicians alike have discovered the master in their midst. Goldschmidt died peacefully and content. In the end, it had all been worthwhile.

Bernard Keefe

Berthold Goldschmidt, composer and conductor, born January 18, 1903; died October 17, 1996

Pavel Solovoyov

# The hero who fell to earth

A stroke felled him, the last words of Pavel Solovoyov, Hero of Socialist Labour, designer of most of the USSR's postwar aero engines, Soviet "General Constructor", pioneer of the world's most powerful helicopters, were: "Traitors! Traitors!"

The 79-year-old had been sitting at his desk in his once top-secret design bureau in Perm in the Urals. Spread out in front of him were newspaper cuttings, saving his PS 90 engine. Plagued with problems, it had to be substantially redesigned, but meanwhile one Tupolev aircraft factory was going ahead with a \$6 billion project to equip its new generation of planes with Rolls-Royce RB211 engines. Pratt and Whitney had announced a

plan to invest in the Perm factory, but the alliance was not going smoothly. Yevgeny Shaposhnikov, head of Aeroflot, had just told Izvestia newspaper that for every PS 90 engine being used on the Ilushin 95 transport they had to keep three sets of spare parts because it was that unreliable. With this level of technology, the airline would go broke.

Starved of governmental support, blamed for the fall of a once great industry, Solovoyov could stand it no longer. An engineer talking to him on the telephone realised that Solovoyov had difficulty speaking. He was suffering a stroke. A week after that final comment he was dead.

It was a bitter end to a glittering career. Pavel Alexandrovich Solovoyov was born



Highs and lows... Pavel Solovoyov's glittering career was brought to a bitter end

in a poor peasant's son in the year of the revolution. One of five children, he grew up in the Volga village of Alkaidino and, when his father died, went to Ribinsk, supporting himself even before he finished school.

His engineering genius meant that by his third year at Ribinsk Aviation Institute

he was teaching his peers. In 1940 and the Soviet Union was on the verge of the most destructive war in its history. Solovoyov was whisked to the aircraft engine design bureau in Perm, under the personal guidance of Arkady Shvetsov, the father of the Soviet aircraft industry.

Under Shvetsov, Solovoyov worked on the engine of the best Red Army fighter, the Lavrochkin 5, in which a Russian air ace, Kozhebhuh, was to shoot down 62 German planes. It was not the Spitfire, but it was critical to the Soviet war effort. The 25-year-old engineer got the first of many medals from the Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin.

By the time of the Korean war in 1950, the United States had consolidated its lead in heavy helicopters. Lavrenti Beria, Stalin's chief of the secret police, the NKVD, invited the Soviet Union's brightest engineers, including Solovoyov, to Moscow for consultations.

Having worked on the development of the world's most powerful aircraft piston engine — the ASh-2K of 1946 — Solovoyov realised that even more powerful engines would mean gas turbines; the world had entered the jet era. Two of

his turbo-shaft D-35V engines powered the MiG of 1957, and later came the Mi10 helicopter. They were incomparable, setting the world lead in lifting power. He spent 36 years as the head of the Perm design bureau, designing the D20P turbofan which, on board the Tu 124 passenger aircraft in 1962 had a two-year lead over its western rivals. In his last years he turned all his attention to the PS 90.

Several disasters had beset the Russian aircraft industry, Solovoyov was fond of saying. There had been the German invasion of 1941 and the mis-guided plans of Nikita Khrushchev, Soviet leader of the late 1950s and early 1960s, to convert aircraft factories into missile plants. But the worst was the free market and the collapse of state authority.

Solovoyov was unable to finish with the PS 90 what he had started. One day it may be competitive with its western counterparts, being a third of the price. But Solovoyov will not be there to see it.

David Hearst

Pavel Alexandrovich Solovoyov, aero-engine designer, born 1917; died October 12, 1996

Elizabeth Pennington

# Guardian of the tradition

THERE are among us those whose lives remain unproclaimed and, to the world, may appear unremarkable, yet whose modest exterior conceals an interior life of unexpected richness. Such a person was Elizabeth Pennington, who has died aged 77.

Born in Longsight, Manchester, a pupil of Manchester High School, Elizabeth was a true Mancunian. Although her opportunities were limited by circumstances, she carved out a satisfying secretarial career for herself in the early days for the Head of Programmes on BBC radio and, with the advent of television, working with the BBC TV team both in Manchester and London.

Leaving the BBC, she accepted an appointment in the House of Commons, where she worked for the members of the Labour front bench in the days of Harold Wilson and Tony Crosland and was invited to join the secretarial team in 10 Downing Street. She declined the invitation, preferring instead to return to her home city. There she joined the Manchester Guardian as secretary to the editor, Alastair Hetherington.

Some two years later, the Guardian moved to London, and Elizabeth went too. She worked selflessly and dedicatedly on behalf of the paper through the very difficult early days of London printing. Her contribution to the paper was outstanding.

Later she returned again to Manchester and, still working for the Guardian, became secretary to the chairman, Laurence Scott, and his successor, Charles Buxton. In retirement she moved to Buxton. Although her later



Selfless... Pennington

years were dogged by increasing ill health, she found great consolation in the blossoming of her friendship with Margaret Aumonier, a friendship which comforted and sustained her, and enriched her life.

Elizabeth was a very private and unassuming person. Although always a backroom girl, she had a fine command of the English language, an analytical mind, and what has been described as "a useful sense of humour". A keen observer of the social scene — Jane Austen and Barbara Pym were among her favourite authors — her twin loves were the works of Austen and the Guardian, which she liked to have always at her hand.

Jessica Scott

Catherine Elizabeth Pennington, personal assistant, born November 19, 1918; died October 5, 1996

Birthdays

Sir Tim Bell, former Conservative Party publicity adviser, 55; Chuck Berry, rock 'n' roll singer, 70; Sir Michael Burton, ambassador to the Czech Republic, 59; Lord Clark, former Conservative MP, 78; Prof Timothy Clark, Dean and Professor of Pulmonary Medicine, National Heart and Lung Institute, 61; Tony Daley, footballer, 28; Lord Ellis-Thomas, former Plaid Cymru MP, 50; Sam Galbraith, Labour MP, 51; Prof Harold Hankins, principal, Umist, 66; Hilde Holger, expressionist dancer, 51; Lord Kimball, former MP, 68; Wynon Marsalis, jazz trumpeter, 35; Paul McGrath, footballer, 28; Malcolm Marshall, cricketer, 36; Martina Navratilova, tennis player, 40; Dr Kate Pretty, principal, Homerton College, Cambridge, 51; Lady Salween, chief of Clan Fraser, 56; George C Scott, actor, 69; Gladstone Small, cricketer, 35; Michael Stich, tennis player, 26; Mary Symes, first woman coroner, 84; Dick Taverne QC, former MP, 68; Pierre Trudeau CH, former prime minister of Canada, 77.

Death Notices

ROACH (John Edwin), peacefully in his sleep at home in Westbury, Wiltshire, on 15th October 1996, the beloved son of the late Lily and Jack, also a loved and missed brother, father and grandfather of Northamptonshire. Burial at Northampton Crematorium. Friends are invited to a service at 11.30am on Monday 22nd Oct at 2pm at St. Andrew's Church, Westbury. Enquiries to: Daykin & Co., Funeral Directors, Tel: 0161 740 525.

Memorial Services

MARSHALL, Frank. A Memorial celebration, St. Paul's Church, St. Paul's Lane, W.C.2, Sunday 27th October at 3pm.

Births

DAVYCOLLETT. To Charles and John, a daughter, Anastasia, born 8th October 1996 in Sydney, Australia. Congratulations and love from the family.

SOBHAM. Charlotte and Oliver are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Alexander James on October 11th 1996.

To view please see an obituary on page 10. Tel: 0171 713 4547, Fax 0171 713 4124.



Last night's dinner.

Imagine having to choose between feeding your family or clothing them. It's a choice millions of Britons can't have to imagine. It's a choice they have to make. Day in, day out. Because according to the most recent statistics 1 in 3 Britons now live on or below the poverty line.

In 1996, the British Nations International Year for the Eradication of Poverty, let's not forget the millions of people affected. Because we believe everyone has a right to a life that is more than just wretched survival.

For further information contact UK Coalition, 17 Grove Lane, London SE23 9HS.

Jackdaw



Attention!

SUBJECT: Internet Abuse 1. It has come to my attention that a number of government employees are using their government-provided computer to access the Internet for unauthorised purposes. THIS MUST STOP IMMEDIATELY 2. I am particularly disturbed that some employees feel free to waste government time using the Internet for their personal entertainment. All government employees are REQUIRED to use official time to perform official duties, and they have a duty to use government property for its intended purpose — government work.

3. At Hanscom AFB, government communications systems are monitored by the 68th Support Group Communications Division (SC). SC personnel monitor 100 per cent of the requests for information from the Internet sources through a device known as a "proxy server". The proxy server records the identification number of each computer used to access the Internet and the search terms that were used. It then stores the information received from the Internet at the same time as it forwards the information to your individual computer. By using your desktop computer, you consent to government monitoring of your Internet use — you should have no expectation of privacy. 4. Misuse of government time and property will not be tolerated. Supervisors MUST ensure that all their personnel understand this policy and MUST enforce it vigorously. Personnel who choose to violate these rules are subject to discipline, including possible criminal prosecution.

Charles E Franklin, Lieutenant General, USAF Commander

No time for resting, the above letter can be found at [www.scc.af.mil/EN/ENI/Franklin.html](http://www.scc.af.mil/EN/ENI/Franklin.html) Thanks to Lindsay Marshall.

Big bunk

THE FOUR minute warning has sounded, the Russian nukes are closing fast and you are now facing imminent vapourisation. Funny how, all of a sudden, \$8m for a luxury nuclear fall-out bunker sounds pretty cheap. That's certainly how Gerry Henderson saw things back in the 1960s. Gripped by nuclear war paranoia, the millionaire founder of the Avon cosmetics empire had a state-of-the-art fall-out shelter built beneath Las Vegas. It's now for sale at \$8 million, and it's easy to see why: it covers 16,500 square feet and lies 30 feet below the ground. Mistakenly painted scenery Astro turf grass and plastic trees simulate the great outdoors while an automatic lighting system replicates night and day. Survivors of the atomic holocaust in this bunker could take a dip in the heated

swimming pool, relax in the hot tub or have a barbecue — smoke from the grill travels up a fake trunk to the surface.

Encased in a protective concrete shell, the shelter has its own generator and fuel tanks and was designed to be inhabited for a year or more. Up above on the surface there is no clue to its existence — its entrance is concealed within an anonymous-looking cottage. Henderson died without using the bunker.

The bunker was built for Henderson by Kenneth Swartz, an architect who believed the surface world would soon become uninhabitable because of nuclear war. Focus reveals some of the mad things the rich spend their money on.

Anything goes

THE POLICE in the Chester area in north-west England have been advertising in the Chester Chronicle for a "defensive tactics" trainer. "This is a new post in which you will train police personnel in self-defence, baton, handcuffing and first aid

techniques. Knowledge of self-defence and first-aid would be an advantage, but not essential." Open advertising in the New Scientist.

Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mail [Jackdaw@guardian.co.uk](mailto:Jackdaw@guardian.co.uk); fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

Alan Clark

IN Monday's Jackdaw we published a short extract from an article by Ferdinand Mount in the Times Literary Supplement which mentioned Alan Clark, the former Conservative MP for Plymouth, and which also referred to current Conservative MPs who are "financially dicey". There was no intention on the Guardian's part to link Mr Clark with such individuals and we accept that this description does not apply to Mr Clark. We apologise to Mr Clark for any offence this passage caused.

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer  
Telephone: 0171-239-9610  
Fax: 0171-833-4456

# Finance Guardian

## 'Unknown entity' shatters the Footsie glass ceiling

'Holy shit! So that's the latest stage in her quest to take over the world. She's an incredible force of nature, unstoppable. She's smart, funny, super-aggressive. Christ, I admire her.' US colleague



Marjorie Scardino, the first woman chief executive of a FTSE-100 company, with the Pearson group's new deputy chairman, Dennis Stevenson. Her appointment unsettled share dealers

David Gow

**M**ARJORIE Scardino, an American virtually unknown in Britain, is to be the first woman chief executive of a company featuring in the FTSE 100 index of top companies. Her appointment by media and entertainment group Pearson stunned the City yesterday.

Mrs Scardino, chief executive of the Economist, part-owned by Pearson, and architect of its recent strong

circulation and profits growth, beat three male contenders to take over from Frank Barlow, aged 66, who retires at the end of the year. Mrs Scardino, aged 49, is widely admired by close colleagues on both sides of the Atlantic. However, she provoked a dismayed reaction among City analysts as "not a big hitter" and an "unknown entity", and among dealers who marked down Pearson shares. The stock closed down 13 at 575p.

David Gordon, Mrs Scardino's predecessor and now secretary at the Royal Academy of Arts, said he knew he had taken a risk when he appointed her to the Economist 10 years ago. "That risk was hugely justified... The City doesn't know her. I'm sure that within a few months they will find her not only a known quantity but a known quality."

Analysts, who had looked for a man of the calibre of Archie Norman or Asda or Lord Hollick to spearhead a refocusing of the unloved Pearson, were also surprised that three recent male recruits to the group's board had been overlooked. One of Pearson's "new generation" — Greg Dyke, in charge of Pearson's TV interests, David Bell, head of the information division, and John Makinson, finance director — had been expected to be Mr Barlow's successor and transform Pearson into a leading media group capable of resisting takeover.

Senior insiders insisted that all three were such recent board appointees (they joined on April 1) filling such key posts that it would have been "odd" to catapult them into the chief executive's seat. Mrs Scardino will run the company with Dennis Stevenson, new deputy chairman and successor to Lord Blakenham as chairman from May next year. Mr Stevenson was credited with turning around the fortunes of GFA, the airline-leasing company.

Mr Stevenson said last night that Mrs Scardino had a "quite extraordinary" record at the Economist, which now has a worldwide circulation of 600,000 and which she joined as head of its North American operations in 1988 before moving to London in 1993. "The City is learning about her managerial and entrepreneurial track record very fast."

Mrs Scardino said she would study the group before charting any new courses. Acknowledging that dealers were taken aback because of her relative low-profile at the Economist, an unquoted company, she added: "I'll have to ask them to wait and see what I produce." But analysts say Pearson faced some very serious and pressing questions, notably over Madame Tussauds and Minscape, its US-based software division which lost £38.8 million in the first half.

### Notebook

## Spiteful treatment of a whistleblower



Edited by Alex Brummer

**T**HE decision by Kleinwort Benson to cancel the severance pay of assistant director Mark Horn following his allegations of poor practice by fund managers, is spiteful and disgraceful. Having failed to receive any satisfactory answers on a series of issues concerning the way in which Kleinwort conducts its fund management business, Mr Horn took the only honourable course open to him — he went public with his complaints. For this he has been castigated by the bank for disclosing confidential information and internal documents to third parties (details page 2).

It would be far better if Kleinwort Benson and its owner, Dresdner Bank, were to focus more closely on the substance of what Mr Horn had to say about breaches in the Chinese walls, which should separate fund management from the other activities of the bank, and alleged special treatment for Kleinwort family members, rather than turn its fire on Mr Horn. When all else fails, and Mr Horn, a barrister, went through all the proper compliance procedures inside Kleinwort Benson, there is little alternative but to go to the media.

This may be very much frowned upon by the close-knit world of merchant banking, Ian Hopkins, who sought to bring the activities of Nick Leeson to the attention of more senior management at Barings before his demise, was ignored by senior executives and is facing discipline by the Securities and Futures Authority. Yet the Singapore government inspectors' report shows he was one of the few Barings insiders willing to question openly the disastrous Leeson trades.

One of the main problems faced by fund managers/investment bankers and others in the City with a complaint against practice or their seniors is the quality of the compliance function. As former Fraud Squad detective Rowan Bosworth-Davies has noted, compliance officers remain trapped between their roles as policemen and part of the entrepreneurial culture.

Certainly the experience at two other merchant banks, Barings and Morgan Grenfell, can give investors no particular cause for confidence. Peter Young's compliance officer at DMG was among those to question openly the compensation two days ago. The overworked fund management regulator Inro is giving the Kleinwort Benson case the once-over and one would hope it will give Mr Horn the hearing he deserves. Over the longer term, Inro could do itself and the fund management industry a great deal of good if it encouraged a

stronger compliance culture, in which officers could deal with senior executives on an equal basis.

### Pink revolution

**T**HE choice of Economist chief executive Marjorie Scardino for the much more complex job of running the whole Pearson group is exciting and fascinating. It is exciting in that Pearson becomes the first FTSE 100 group to smash through the glass ceiling in Britain's boardrooms. It is fascinating in that she is the total outsider, in terms of gender, experience and background in a group which not so long ago was best known for its patriarchal tendencies.

The stock market's immediate reaction was more than a little unkind. In her management of the Economist in New York and later in Britain she has been a formidable presence. Even in the gossipy world which journalists inhabit it is difficult to find critics. But she will have to demonstrate her people skills fairly quickly if she is not to wobble under her stewardship. It is important to win the confidence of Greg Dyke, chief executive of the television division, and David Bell, chief executive of the Financial Times and a well-known figure in the City — both of whom were contenders for the top job. Their departure would be a serious danger signal and demonstrate that the strategy of bringing on new young executives had turned to custard.

The main problem for Pearson remains its disastrous foray into new technology through Minscape, which has gobbled up at least £40 million. Nevertheless, the Pearson Scardino era is a more focused group following draconian disposals like Royal Dalton. She may, however, want to consider whether the company wants the risk of controlling 50 per cent of Lazards, even with its historical role as a cash generator.

### Pushy pound

**I**T IS wonderful seeing the pound spring towards the DM2.45 level after the humiliation of September 1992 and the further falls which followed the Major devaluation. As the authorities like to point out, a stronger pound offers a useful barrier against inflation at a time when the Chancellor is resisting the Bank of England's calls for higher base rates.

But, while sterling holders glory on the slopes of Switzerland and Austria this winter, nobody should forget how often currencies overshoot and how, when they correct themselves, the downward move can be very uncomfortable. Many of the factors supporting sterling, including the dollar, must be regarded as temporary. Until hard decisions are taken on the public finances and the Bank of England is allowed to establish its credibility as an inflation fighter, sterling rallies will always be ephemeral.

## Feisty, tough. And a bruised banker knows it

PROFILE/Lawyer, parent to a child star and publisher masks drive with Southern charm, writes DAVID GOW

**M**ARJORIE Scardino is a prime example of the feisty American businesswoman capable of outgunning male colleagues in the ruthless drive to the top and managing the perfect family, all at the same time.

The City, loudly questioning yesterday her capacity for reshaping the ragged conglomerate that is Pearson, will find a very tough lady prepared to take on — and defeat — the Establishment in whatever hue. "Holy shit!" said one American colleague. "She's an absolute delight, the most inspiring person I've ever come across. She's got huge energy, loads of imagination, very innovative, and always with a human touch."

Mrs Scardino is a modern Southern woman, said to be close to the White House via Harold Ickes, a Clinton campaign manager, and the New York political scene

where her husband Albert was media spokesman for David Dinkins, the city's first black mayor. Continuing the family tradition — she has three children — son Hal, aged 11, is a star of three Hollywood films.

Both Scardinos, *mere et pere*, are all the more iconoclastic for City mores as they come out of the anti-Vietnam War, civil rights, black-voter-registration campaigns of the 60s.

Before taking over the Economist's North American operation, where she oversaw a huge advance in circulation and revenue, she was a partner in a Savannah, Georgia, law firm and publisher and co-founder, with Albert, of the Georgia Gazette, an alternative weekly that specialised in exposing politicians' corrupt links with business. It won a Pulitzer Prize but folded under a mountain of debt in 1984.

This background, according to US friends, is being put to use. "She's done a masterly job of masquerading her drive and insatiable ambition with her great Southern charm and humour," one said.

## Go abroad to get ahead

THE BIAS/It's the same old story as females face male prejudice, report CELIA WESTON and DAVID GOW

**A**NY woman who wants to climb the corporate ladder should apply to work overseas. Foreign women do not face the same professional restrictions and can benefit from the greater flexibility that many cultures afford them over homeborn applicants, according to research by a senior Canadian academic.

"Employers tend to see the foreignness before the femaleness," says Nancy Adler of McGill University in Montreal, Canada. "Successful women get to the top positions, but it seems more often to be the case with women."

Research published yesterday in the US, showing that women make up 46 per cent of the workforce but hold only 10 per cent of the top executive positions at the Fortune 500 companies, confirms this. It also shows that, even allowing for a range of personal and organisational characteristics, women senior executives are less likely than their male colleagues to be promoted. Young men are the most likely to advance quickly.

Putting a woman in a senior role is "risky". One senior executive, quoted in last year's Hansard Society report, said: "Women are not always able to separate emotions from difficult decisions and can confuse the issues. The same can apply to some men, and they would not get to the top positions, but it seems more often to be the case with women."

Research published yesterday in the US, showing that women make up 46 per cent of the workforce but hold only 10 per cent of the top executive positions at the Fortune 500 companies, confirms this. It also shows that, even allowing for a range of personal and organisational characteristics, women senior executives are less likely than their male colleagues to be promoted. Young men are the most likely to advance quickly.

While 77 per cent of all women think they are as likely as men to succeed, nine out of 10 women under the age of 34 are certain they will have the same opportunities. The report says women's growing presence

Dean of Cranfield School of Management, says her own studies, until that happens in the private sector, we're just not going to change." Nor is Tricia Boyle, Edinburgh-based management consultant and Ashridge management school associate, optimistic. She cites, among other impediments, institutional sexism in patriarchal firms and perceptions of women's domestic role.

"Research shows that to get on you need mentors and sponsors — one to help you and another to put your name forward — and they tend to be men. Given the sexual dynamic, if a man puts a woman forward people say he must be stupid with her, so sponsoring a woman is seen as a bigger risk for a man."

In spite of the evidence, younger women (up to the age of 30) are often convinced that sexism doesn't exist any more, are optimistic they will succeed and can be angry with older women who express their frustrations, says Ms Boyle.

"Then they reach 30 or 35, start becoming contenders for serious jobs and that's when it starts to hit them."

— has done so much better in pushing women into senior positions. "Until that happens in the private sector, we're just not going to change."

But the data suggests these hopes are misplaced, as women continue to lag behind men in status and pay. Emma Kaufmann, a spokesperson for Market Assessment, said: "The positive finding is that women are more confident about their chances. But the downside is that, as things stand, their hopes are likely to be dashed."

The paper shows that women's earnings suffer permanent damage from taking time off to have children, with their pay packets falling from 65 per cent of men's in their late 30s, to 67 per cent by the time they hit 40.

Half of all women with a child under five work, according to the survey, with most saying their income is essential to the household budget.

## The ladies in waiting



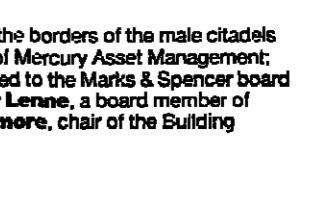
Rosemary Thorne, right, is another finance director — often a last stop before the big job — of J Sainsbury plc. She has 20 O levels and a distinguished retailing career.

If women in high-profile positions are rare, black women are pretty much unheard of. A prominent exception is Fiee Mwangi, a black graduate of the University College and the LSE, who was poached from E2W last month by AMP Asset Management, where she heads one of the three fund-management teams.

Among other women pushing at the borders of the male citadels are: Carol Galley, vice-chairman of Mercury Asset Management; Clara Freeman, who was appointed to the Marks & Spencer board earlier this year; Helen Schneider Lerner, a board member of Deutsche Bank; and Rosalind Gilmore, chair of the Building Societies Commission.

The City has been waiting years for its first woman head of a FTSE 100 company, and there were many contenders. Here is a selection.

Kathleen O'Donovan, left, another corporate heavyweight, became the first woman finance director when she was appointed to the board of BT — an industrial conglomerate — in 1991. Although she was piped to the post for first honours, Ms O'Donovan is a safe long-term bet: she is only 39.



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Canada 2.2825	Hong Kong 11.94	New Zealand 2.2040	Sweden 10.34
Cyprus 0.7175	India 56.53	Norway 10.08	Switzerland 1.94
Denmark 9.1025	Ireland 0.9695	Portugal 239.00	Turkey 145.247
Finland 7.2090	Israel 5.07	Saudi Arabia 5.81	USA 1.5485

Supplied by NatWest Bank (excluding Indian rupee and Israeli shekel).

# Kleinwort 'reneging on its pay-off deal'

Patrick Donovan  
City Editor

**M**ARK Horn, the high-flying Kleinwort Benson fund manager who was sacked after raising concerns about the ethics of the company's investment business, yesterday claimed that his employer was refusing to honour a £12,000 severance agreement.

Mr Horn says that his former employer backtracked on the deal after he expressed concerns publicly about the running of Kleinwort's investment operations.

He has claimed that his fiduciary duty to the interests of his clients was being compromised through pressure from other parts of the Kleinwort Benson group.

Mr Horn was sacked because he failed to follow management instructions, has denied acting improperly. Mr Horn has given details of the allegations to the City regulator Imro, which has begun an investigation into the way that Kleinwort is managed.

It emerged yesterday that the investigation will include allegations that London fund managers were informally instructed not to exercise their right to vote at the annual shareholder meetings of certain German companies.

Mr Horn says the instruction was given by Kleinwort's German parent, Dresdner Bank.

Kleinwort has sent Mr Horn a letter in which it claims his decision to speak out represented a "breach of your duty of confidentiality". The bank's letter continues:

"Imro is examining your allegations. Kleinwort Benson is confident that Imro will conclude that Kleinwort Benson has behaved in compliance with its regulatory obligations and duties to clients."

A spokesman for Kleinwort yesterday promised to make a statement after completion of the Imro inquiry.

Mr Horn said yesterday that it was "neither able to confirm nor deny that we have mounted an investigation".

Mr Horn says that he felt obliged to speak out because he feared his legal responsibility to clients' interests were in danger of being compromised because of pressure from the rest of the investment business.

This pressure, he claimed, had resulted in a breakdown in the "Chinese wall" set up to separate fund management from the frequently conflict-

ing interests of corporate finance. Among the other allegations put forward to Imro are claims that:

- The wife of a senior Kleinwort broker was given preferential treatment in the stock market flotation of a Spanish company four months ago.
- Certain employees bought shares in a "hot" Swedish biotechnology company using information not available to the rest of the market.
- When Mr Horn raised issues about his investments there were complaints that his remarks had a negative impact on other parts of Kleinwort's business.

Mr Horn, who has a high City reputation for his fund management skills, said he was not able to tolerate a situation that he claimed compromised the interests of his clients.

# London the golden attraction for Africa's £50m bullion smugglers

Dan Atkinson

**L**ONDON is at the centre of a £50 million-a-year gold-smuggling racket shipping stolen and otherwise-illegal bullion from Mozambique into Europe, the Guardian has learned. Some of the metal is then refined in Britain, often in primitive garage refineries, and ends up in wedding and engagement rings and other jewellery.

"A lump of gold is a lump of gold," said one industry source, underlining the ease with which smugglers can refine away identifying features from illicit bullion. Investigations by the South African police have highlighted the smuggling route from the Cape through Mozambique and on to airports in Britain. The rackets under investi-

gation dwarf run-of-the-mill evasion of VAT on gold, one case of which earlier this year involved £500,000 of tax evasion. Much of the bullion has been stolen from mines in South Africa, which are reeling from what they say is a total of more than \$350 million of losses every year. "It is a major tax on the mines," said a London gold analyst.

Of the rest, industry sources suggest that some is legitimately owned gold evading tough exchange-control regulations in South Africa, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. And there are hints that a proportion comes from jewellery stolen by muggers and thieves in South Africa.

The London route is thought by South African police to stretch from an airport in suburban Johan-

nesburg, from where undeclared gold is flown to Maputo in Mozambique. From there, it is flown to Britain, either Heathrow or quieter provincial airports, and re-refined to hide its origin.

With modern technology, a new breed of rogue refiner is able to produce gold bars to the standard of purity demanded by British and other European jewellers. "There are people who have the technology," said one expert. For sale to reputable jewellers, the gangs will need paperwork "proving" that the gold was refined at an established refinery, but for the less scrupulous in the trade there is no need.

Five tonnes of gold is thought to have gone along this route during the past year alone, metal which would have a total value of about £60 million at the

present market price. Illicit gold movements out of Africa to Europe are on a vastly different scale to the more common British problem of evasion of VAT on bullion, and there are suggestions that mafia-type gangs and ruthless criminal syndicates are involved in the racket.

Illicit shipments of gold to Britain are expected to decline, at least temporarily, after South African police activity during the past few weeks. London broker T Hoare said the Mozambique smuggling ring might have shifted a total of 15 tonnes of gold during the past 10 years, bullion with a total worth of more than \$180 million.

The Chamber of Mines in South Africa estimates that theft at 30 tonnes a year, or more than \$350 million worth.



Window on the east... Marks and Spencer's empire already includes eight outlets in Hong Kong PHOTOGRAPH: DON MCPHEE

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# Marks and Spencer's woolly jumpers going to meet their maker

**OUTLOOK**The prospects for St Michael's worldwide ambitions are examined by Sarah Whitebloom

**I**T CAN only be a matter of time before the residents of Ramsay Street stock up on chicken tikka. A new way of life is on its way to Australia - Marks and Spencer is casting its eye on a new frontier.

Britain's biggest clothing retailer announced yesterday that it has decided to enter the Australian market. Less than three weeks after announcing plans for a £120 million expansion in Germany, M&S said that it would be setting up shop - or rather franchises - in the Sydney area.

The retailer said yesterday that it believed the M&S "value for money" stance would go down well in Australia.

No doubt the move will be assisted by homesick emigrants, eager to slip back into something more comfortable.

Franchising has to be a better strategy than the firm's foray into America. Marks's \$750 million acquisition of the Brooks Brothers clothier in 1998 has attracted few plaudits. Britain's most respected retailer, although things have been picking up.

At least M&S understands how to sell M&S and its products - and franchising is a

cheaper option than bricks and mortar.

M&S is already well established in continental Europe, although trading conditions have not always been favourable. Its French operation is currently its largest on the Continent.

But the German move will make the country M&S's main European market, with

**The \$750m acquisition of Brooks Brothers has attracted few plaudits**

25 branches planned. More stores are planned for Ireland, though there is no talk yet of a march on Moscow.

Potential riches in the Far East are clearly far more tempting to M&S and the Australian move must be seen as part of this. It has already got eight branded stores in Hong Kong, 55 Brooks Brothers in Japan and an office in Shanghai looking at the possibil-

ties of breaking into the big one, the retailer's dream - the one-billion-person Chinese market.

St Michael seems quite determined to breach the Great Wall. The way Marks is going, it will literally soon be possible to encircle the world in green plastic carrier bags.

The firm already has 350 stores in 31 countries. They yielded 15 per cent (£1.17 billion) of its turnover in the year to the end of March. This was an increase of 11.7 per cent on the previous year.

M&S clearly sees no reason to stop there. If all goes to plan, the percentage of profits earned overseas will increase significantly over the next five years.

An M&S spokeswoman said yesterday: "We are ambitious about being a major global retailer."

Who knows? With M&S on the march, McDonald's may have competition in the global anti-culture stakes as nations around the world succumb to Marks's easy charms.

It is the stuff global retailers dream of: made of every shopping mall everywhere having the same plastic, illuminated shopfronts. It is possible: as much has happened in the UK.

Marks's management must salivate at the prospect of putting a ready meal on every table. M&S underwear in every bedroom and "tasteful" ties in every wardrobe.

## Clothing plant closure will cost 700 jobs

**A**BOUT 700 jobs are to be lost with the closure of a clothing factory in Glasgow.

Claremont Garments, which produces women's clothing and lingerie mainly for Marks & Spencer, said it could not justify keeping the plant open, despite six weeks of rescue talks with the GMB union, the Scottish Office and the Glasgow Development Agency.

The company said it would maintain "a level of employment" for as many people as possible at the plant, in the Shawlands area of the city, between until the end of the year, during which time there would discussions with those involved and their representatives. - *Reuter*

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Racing

All bets off after Bosra Sham scare

Cecil denies there's trouble afoot. Graham reports

BOOKMAKERS suspended betting on the Champion Stakes last night following the news that Bosra Sham, the second favourite, had bruised her foot being shod for her eagerly-anticipated debut in the big race at Newmarket tomorrow.

Bosra Sham has delicate feet, and her near-future is particularly sensitive. When her shoes were removed yesterday to replace them with racing plates, the inevitable bruising was apparent.

Henry Cecil, her trainer, said that he had examined the 1,000 Guineas winner following exercise in the morning, and again in the afternoon. "She is 100 per cent," he asserted.

However, all the money in the credit offices was for Halling, who was backed down to evens. In the face of sustained support for the favourite, bookmakers decided to suspend their lists until declaration for the Champion Stakes at 10.15 this morning.

Bosra Sham is expected to take her chance, though, and she will be joined by Timarida. Ireland's leading filly had suffered from a minor bacterial infection earlier in the week, but John Oxx reported that his stable star appeared to have recovered fully.

Wall Street, who is entered for both the Breeders' Cup Turf and the Champion, is more likely to go to America, but a final decision will be made this morning. The Godolphin colt forms part of a strong European raid on the Breeders' Cup races.

Mark Of Esteem will be the British banker in the Mile. He might be accompanied by his Godolphin stable companion, Charnwood Forest, who comfortably gave 4lb and a two-length beating to Bishop Of Cashel in the Challenge Stakes at Newmarket yesterday.

Simon Crisford, representing the winning team, said that if Charnwood Forest were to fly this morning, he would fly to Toronto on Monday.

Crisford was delighted by Mark Of Esteem's well-being. "He's really pinged and seems to be in even better form than before. As a horse, he wouldn't want to be over-exercised, but otherwise he should handle any ground." The 2,000 Guineas winner is a best-priced 2-1 with Coral.

Kahhal will be the sole European challenger for the Breeders' Cup Sprint, last won by an overseas runner when Sheikh Albadou stormed home five years ago.

The dirt track at Woodbine is thought to favour those coming from the middle to outside stalls, and Kahhal's chance would be diminished if he were drawn among the low numbers.

In the Breeders' Cup Turf, European entries account for eight of the 14-runner field, with Shantou, Dushyantor, Pilsudski, Singpiel and Wall Street from England, Zagreb from Ireland, and Swain and Luna Wells representing the French champion trainer, Andre Fabre.

Chris Evans, racing secretary at Woodbine, said that soft going on the sand-based turf course would be unlikely.

John Gosden, who trains the progressive Shantou, would prefer some cut in the ground for his St Leger winner, but he thought Shantou would probably take his chance.

Godolphin's Tamayaz, a respectable fifth in the Dubai World Cup, will be the only European horse to line up against Cigar in the Breeders' Cup Classic.

The Jockey Club said yesterday that there was no immediate urgency to hold their inquiry into the abandonment of racing at Haydock Park on Wednesday, brought about by jockeys refusing to ride in the second race.

Evidence was still being collated in a case described by their spokesmen as "a unique set of circumstances, without precedent."



Unchallenged... Frankie Dettori steers Charnwood Forest to a comfortable victory in the Challenge Stakes at Newmarket

Kahal should advance his Classic claims

Ron Cox

KAHAL, deeply impressive when successful at Ascot on only his second start, can justify the £12,000 it cost owner Hamdan Al-Maktoum to get a run in this afternoon's Dewhurst Stakes at Newmarket.

The supplementary entry fee may be a drop in the ocean for Kahal's connections, but it represents a resounding vote of confidence in a colt taking a short step up in class.

Beaten a short head by Sunbeam Dance first time out, Kahal dashed out a near seven lengths beating that horse at Ascot where he clocked a comparatively fast time for seven furlongs.

Arguably the best guide of all to the merits of juvenile form, the clock points to Kahal as a potential top-notch and the Ed Dunlop-trained colt has been a solid second favourite in the Dewhurst betting all week.

Sahabian Bounty, the market choice on the strength of wins in the Middle Park Stakes and at Deauville, is not certain to be as effective over this extra furlong.

Using Zamindar as the yardstick, Frankie Dettori's mount has the same chance as The West, who possibly had too much use made of him when brushed aside by Revogue at Longchamp. Revogue upheld that form when winning again at the Paris track last Sunday.

A line of form involving Revogue and Referendum suggests The West is superior to Irish raider Desert King.

In a race sure to have an impact on next year's Classic betting, Kahal (3.40) can advance his claims.

Next year's Dewhurst Stakes will form part of "Champions Day" at Newmarket when the Group One

Catterick runners and riders

2.10 Telford 2.45 Kean Winters 3.15 Upper Gallery

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Sport in brief

Holmes returns at 47

LARRY HOLMES is coming out of retirement to fight the Dane Brian Nielsen for the IBO heavyweight title in Coppenbagen on January 24, two months after the American's 47th birthday. Holmes retired for the third time after he knocked out Anthony Willis in the eighth round on a Father's Day bout in St Louis, Mississippi on June 16.

Baseball

St Louis Cardinals must be feeling edge. On Monday they led the Atlanta Braves 3-1 in the National League play-offs. Two defeats later and the best-of-seven series is level at 3-3 and sudden-death for a World Series place against the New York Yankees.

Cricket

South Africa beat India by 47 runs in the first of a one-day triangular series in Hyderabad. Gary Kirsten top-scored with 84 in South Africa's 261 for seven in their 50 overs before India were dismissed for 214 in 46.2 overs.

Snooker

Billy Snaddon, a Scot who exudes tenacity, trilled Dena O'Kane 3-1 and by 37 points with only 22 on the table in the eighth frame before emerging a 5-4 first-round winner in the Grand Prix at Bournemouth, writes Chris Tibbs. The dramatic defeat for the New Zealand No. 1 comes just before he is due to lead his country's challenge in a revived and extended World Cup in Bangkok.

Sailing

The three leading boats in the BT Global Challenge had crossed the equator by midday yesterday, writes Bob Fisher. Mike Golding in Group 4 was 57 miles ahead of Simon Walker's Toshiba Wave Warrior with Chris Tibbs' Concert moving up to third place, another 45 miles further back. The 14 boats are in the South-east trade winds and the leaders should reach Rio de Janeiro tomorrow.

Newmarket with form for the televised events

Table with columns for race times (1.30, 2.00, 2.35) and race names (Squawk, Polish Storm, etc.).

Channel 4

Table with columns for race times (3.05, 3.40, 4.15) and race names (Rockwell Stakes, etc.).

Channel 4

Table with columns for race times (4.50, 5.25, 6.00) and race names (Newmarket, etc.).

TAUNTON

Table with columns for race times (1.30, 2.00, 2.35) and race names (Squawk, etc.).

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4.25 BOWING, SMITH, BAKER & PARTNERS RATING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES STY 1m 40.0/15

Table with columns for race times (4.25, 5.00) and race names (Bowing, etc.).

5.00 HORNEY CASTLE HANDICAP 1m 40.0/15

Table with columns for race times (5.00, 5.30) and race names (Horney Castle, etc.).

5.30 NEWBY MAIDEN STAKES (DM 2) STY 1m 40.0/15

Table with columns for race times (5.30, 6.00) and race names (Newby, etc.).

6.00 RICHARD QUINN, CURRENTLY SECOND TO PAT EDDERY IN THE JOCKEY'S TABLE, IS TO BE THE RETAINED JOCKEY TO PRINCE FAHD SALMAN FOR THE 1997 FLAT SEASON, IT WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE NEWGATE STUD YARD.

6.30 BLINKERED TODAY FOR THE FIRST TIME: CATERICK: 4.25 SECOND, CRAIGMORE MAGIC, NOR ESPIRIT, NOT QUITE GREY, HERRIFORD: 4.00 SUNGIA, NEWMARKET: 4.15 GENTLEMEN'S WORD.

4.00 FORMERS OF ANTHONY HOLLAND MEMORIAL NOVICE SCAFF CHASE STY 1m 40.0/15

Table with columns for race times (4.00, 4.30) and race names (Formers, etc.).

4.35 FOWNEHURST HANDICAP HURDLE 2m 11.0/15

Table with columns for race times (4.35, 5.00) and race names (Fownehurst, etc.).

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# SportsGuardian



Sitting pretty... Robbie Fowler scrambles the ball over the line to put Liverpool level at 1-1 after Sion had taken a surprise lead in Switzerland last night PHOTOGRAPH: CLIVE BRUNSKILL

European Cup Winners' Cup, second round, first leg: FC Sion 1, Liverpool 2

## Liverpool leave Sion with relief

Ian Ross in Sion

THE "house full" signs will be posted at Anfield in a fortnight but only those Liverpool supporters whose blind faith outweighs their reason and logic will assemble in anticipation of that old European favourite, the second-leg cake-walk. Liverpool should have won an engaging game by a far more generous margin, but to underestimate opponents who, quite clearly, have the potential for surprise would

be foolish, maybe even fatal. Even so, Liverpool will be content. A place in the last eight of the only European competition they have still to win beckons. Among those reduced to watching at the Tourbillon Stadium last night was Stan Collymore, an £8.5 million footballer whose career since his arrival from Nottingham Forest 15 months ago has been punctuated by embarrassing troughs. The man who would be king plumbd the depths again last night, turfed out to accommodate the return of

Robbie Fowler after a three-match absence. It would now seem that a half-fit Fowler is a more attractive option than a fully-fit Collymore. Not even when Fowler was withdrawn in the second half could the Liverpool manager Roy Evans find room for his expensive misfit. As expected, Sion proved to be more exuberant than expert although, curiously, a willingness to chase enthusiastically any form of forward pass — however over-hit, however misdirected — unsettled the Liverpool defence. After Berger had gone close

inside the opening minute, Sion's football peaked in the 11th. Since emerging as his club's latest bright star Matteo has made few mistakes — but he came up with a real gem last night. Having collected Quentin's punt forward, Matteo had only to roll the ball back to his goalkeeper James to transform defence into attack. His back pass fell short and once Bonvin had overcome his sense of surprise, he had only to move clear of James's challenge before finding an unprotected target.

Liverpool's sense of purpose quickly returned. Unable to halt McManaman's raking runs down the left flank, Sion foolishly allowed their back line to slip further and further towards their own goal, a tactically naive response to danger which was to provide Liverpool with ample space in which to manoeuvre. Even then it was the 24th minute before they found a way through, Fowler tapping in his first European goal from close range after Berger's effort had come back off the chest of the goalkeeper Lehmann, who made some superb saves later on. While it would have been indiscreet for Sion to covet what they already held, it would certainly have been unwise to place many fragile

eggs in one basket in search of a second goal. But in the end it did not matter because as the evening wore on it was Liverpool who answered the more pertinent questions. Scales and Fowler both wasted reasonable opportunities before Sion were finally engulfed by the rising red tide. Exactly an hour had passed when Barnes rose unattended at the near post to turn in a Bjornbey corner with a deft header. It was a moment of precision lifted from the training ground and one which, in all probability, has decided the tie. Sion: Lehmann; Gaspoz, Quentin, Milton, Zambor (Chassot, Ghini), Wicky, Lonjat, Sylvester, Vararoussa, Lukic, Bonin (Vince, 80). Liverpool: James; McAteer, Matteo, Sadi, Scales, Burnside, McManaman, Barnes, Thomas, Berger, Fowler (Redknapp, 86). Referee: A Lopez-Nieto (Spain).

## Inside track on Carling's hug mates



Vincent Hanna

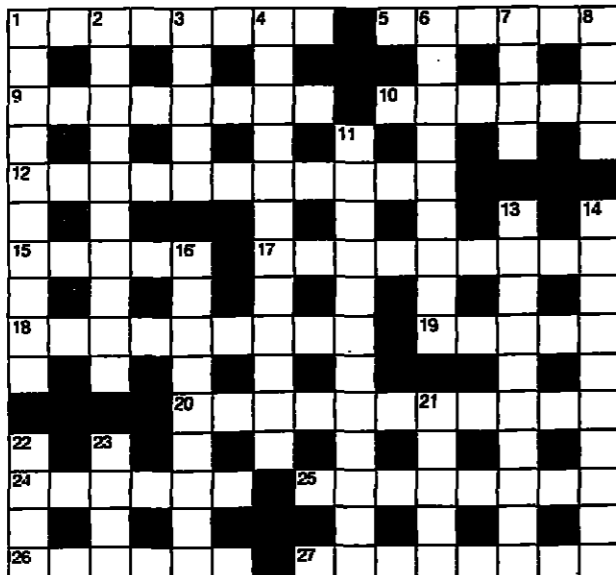
LET us peep through the keyhole of a cellar in Edinburgh. Fifteen young men in skimpy clothing stand huddled. Their leader motions them towards him — "In here, boys, close" — and opens his arms wide in an embrace. They converge into one enwrapped and arms-clasped union and beat a clattering tattoo on the concrete floor with their boots, louder and louder. Someone bellows: "One to one! One to one!" "C'mon in, fighter, fighter," urges the leader. "We do not lose."

"We do not lose. We blast them. We blast them. Nothing else, nothing else." Frank Keating's description of the final moments before Will Carling led England out at Murrayfield last March engulfs us with the intensity of its imagery, at once homoerotic and militaristic. Nowhere, except perhaps in American college football, could one imagine such a scene. In the States, Jesus would be playing for the team as well. Keating found himself stranded with the England team in Durban during the last World Cup. His relationship with the players led to them asking him to be their official scribe for the 1995-96 season. He was given unique access, along with a photographer, Jon Nicholson. The book is a glorious portrait and far from flattering. But the author's skill ensures that people will take from it what they want to see. The players will love it, as much as others will be repelled. A lot of hugging and bonding goes on. "Each is now twining close together as one in a full company's huddled, all-embracing, final hug, out of which various whispered unintelligible deep-throated private imprecations to valour and resolve are answered with great grunts collective peals which assert the surety of bonded brotherhood. A sort of raucous ultimate of the Freemason's handshake." Keating confesses he finds this "school playground juvenile". Other things are less juvenile. Carling's captancy has a

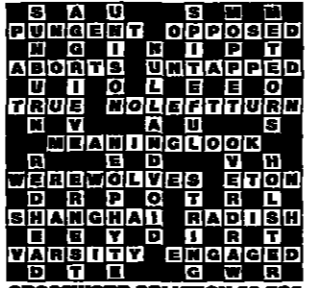
militaristic, xenophobic feel that makes one believe he could never have led the Lions. Here is part of his warm-up speech in Edinburgh: "I remember going down to Hereford not long after the Gulf War... to visit the SAS boys. We were in deep awe of them. I remember saying to the soldiers: 'It'd done that I'd be shitting myself.' They looked at us: 'Nonsense, it was just a job... if we had a dearest wish it would be to be like you lads, to walk out and represent our country.' They tell me when I go to Scotland: 'Carling, you're truly hated here.' If that's their context, then I hate them back. If they hate me, I hate them." In perhaps the most vivid story in the book, Gerath Archer is nervous about his first cap against Scotland. He has not slept well. Carling takes him for a walk down Princes Street to parade before the shopping crowds who, in Archer's words, "jeered him [Carling] and threatened him with what was going to happen to him in a few hours. Nothing he got was really something. I was ready for anything. The Scots could throw at me after that." Great captains such as Dawes, McLoughlin, Beamon and McBride would have been treated with respect, even with awe, on such a walk. There is some memorable writing. Jon Callard speaks of the hazy world of the substitutes, excluded from the huddles and cuddles, doomed to smell glory without getting close enough to touch it. "Think of poor old Dawsey," says Callard. "Been on the bench 94 times and never got on the field." (This is Graham Dawe, capped in 1967 but not again until 1995). IN CARLING'S world there are few laughs, not even in the video made as the team for his final game as captain in Dublin last March. It is full of cracks about Princess Di "too downright crude for even the favour of a single sentence to be repeated". The story is told of Tony O'Reilly, who turned up at Twickenham in the Sixties to play against England and went in search of bootlaces. He stuck his head round their dressing-room door. There on a table stood Eric Evans, the England captain, thumping his chest, his face red, shouting about Dumkir. "Excuse me," says O'Reilly, "would any of ye have some hairy string?" The thing is, would Will Carling have got the joke? \* *Band of Brothers*, by Frank Keating (Michael Joseph, £20).

### Guardian Crossword No 20,787

Set by Janus



- 20 I do upstairs work in French painter's atelier (5, 6)
  - 24 Drink-bearer (6)
  - 25 Stick to the book and be consistent (8)
  - 26 One who believes he is in the race (6)
  - 27 Used near or below the surface in the main (8)
- Down**
- 1 Spring sign in borders (10)
  - 2 Prosaic Italian clad in rough tunic (10)
  - 3 First principle when given out twice (5)
  - 4 Unseen recorder of embarrassing scenes with whipped cream in play (6, 6)
  - 6 Precious part of flashing smile perhaps (4, 5)
  - 7 Ale knocked back with Northern impetuosity (4)
  - 8 Quiet journalist's cast off (4)
  - 11 It may cause a stir to see gospel preacher indulge in amorous dalliance (7, 5)
  - 13 Order pen-case and get tinned veg (6, 4)
  - 14 It is up to my cafe to order something exactly to my taste (2, 3, 2, 3)
  - 16 Inclination to soak head (5)
  - 21 I object to article's subject (5)



CROSSWORD SOLUTION 20,786

- 22 Goes one better over notice (4)
- 23 Fish with some superior features (4)

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- Across**
- 1 Sad defender of the sockeye salmon (4-4)
  - 5 Corresponds with soldier over a long period (6)
  - 9 Rebellion following early alarm signal? (8)
  - 10 Many depart after split (6)
  - 12 Cat perhaps responsible for family huff (8, 3)
  - 15 Calls for sporting arenas (5)
  - 17 Usual practice on a railway (6)
  - 18 Superficial manifestation of male pride (9)
  - 19 Indian engaged by French industrialist (5)

## Henman keeps Rusedski in his place

TIM HENMAN upheld his ranking as British No. 1 and maintained his unbeaten record against Greg Rusedski when he beat his main domestic rival 7-6, 7-5 in the second round of the Czech Indoor tournament in Ostrava yesterday. It was the second time they have met. Last November Henman won 1-6, 6-3, 6-2 in the final of the British national championship at Telford, when he was very much the underdog and the Canadian-born Rusedski was the British No. 2.



At full stretch... Rusedski battles Henman PETR JOSEK

Since then the 23-year-old Henman has had an outstanding year. He took over the No. 1 British ranking after the retirement of Jeremy Bates, reached the Wimbledon quarter-finals and saw his world ranking rise to No. 26, the highest

by a British male since John Lloyd. Rusedski's form has been less consistent during that time but his first serve remains one of the most lethal in the men's game. Last Sunday he won the

Beijing tournament, where his serve was timed at 139.8mph, an unofficial world record. The 23-year-old's booming serve was in full working order yesterday but not even that could save him.

He sent down 19 aces during the match but Henman countered that advantage with superior ground strokes and service returns. Consistent all-court skills and effective serve-and-volley tactics gave the seventh-seeded Henman a slight edge in the first set, which he won 7-2 on a tie-break. The second set was also close, Henman taking it 7-5 to go into the quarter-finals. Boris Becker withdrew from the Czech tournament yesterday because of recurring pain in the right wrist he injured at Wimbledon this summer. He is in danger of failing to qualify for a record 12th appearance at the season-ending ATP Tour Championship. He trails Wayne Ferreira for the eighth and final place in Hanover.

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